DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 474 601 TM 034 798

AUTHOR	Castellucci, Marion
TITLE	Thinking Skills: Graphic Skills for Social Studies and Science. GED Scoreboost.
ISBN	ISBN-0-97171-6-5
PUB DATE	2002-00-00
NOTE	49p.; Produced by New Readers Press.
AVAILABLE FROM	New Readers Press, 1320 Jamesville Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13210. Tel: 800-448-8878 (Toll Free). Web site: http://www.newreaderspress.com.
PUB TYPE	Guides - Non-Classroom (055)
EDRS PRICE	EDRS Price MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS
DESCRIPTORS	Critical Thinking; *Equivalency Tests; High School Equivalency Programs; Sciences; *Skill Development; Social Studies; *Thinking Skills
IDENTIFIERS	*General Educational Development Tests; *Graphic Representation

ABSTRACT

GED "Scoreboost" materials target exactly the skills one needs to pass the General Educational Development (GED) tests. This book focuses on the graphics skills needed for the GED Social Studies and Science tests. Those who take the GED Social Studies and Science tests will need to be able to interpret tables and charts, graphs, drawings and other diagrams, editorial cartoons, and maps. The strategies in this booklet can be applied to the GED practice activities included and a GED Practice test. The strategies are: (1) interpret charts and tables; (2) work with pictographs; (3) use bar graphs to make comparisons; (4) see trends in line graphs; (5) relate parts of whole in circle graphs; (6) interpret drawings; (7) figure out diagrams; (8) analyze editorial cartoons; (9) read map formats; (10) interpret location and direction on maps; and (11) interpret maps for meaning. (SLD)

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GED Scoreboost™

THINKING SKILLS

Graphic Skills for Social Studies and Science

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Strategies

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Contents

Strategy 1 • Interpret Charts and Tables 2
Strategy 2 • Work with Pictographs 4
Strategy 3 • Use Bar Graphs to Make Comparisons 6
Strategy 4 • See Trends in Line Graphs 8
Strategy 5 • Relate Parts of a Whole in Circle Graphs 10

GED Practice 1 · Charts and Graphs 12

Strategy 6 • Interpret Drawings 16
Strategy 7 • Figure Out Diagrams 18
Strategy 8 • Analyze Editorial Cartoons 20

GED Practice 2 · Cartoons, Drawings, and Diagrams 22

Strategy 9 • Read Map Formats 26
Strategy 10 • Interpret Location and Direction on Maps 28
Strategy 11 • Interpret Maps for Meaning 30

GED Practice 3 · Maps 32

Practice GED Test 36

Answers and Explanations 40

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GED Scoreboost™ Thinking Skills Team
Project Developer: Caren Van Slyke
Writer: Marion Castellucci
Editor: Elizabeth Kaplan
Associate Editor: Mark Ondrla
Copy Editor: Louise Howe
Production Manager: Jean Farley Brown
Cover Design: Karen Blanchard

Manufactured in the United States of America
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
ISBN 0-9717167-6-5

The GED Scoreboost™ Advantage

GED Scoreboost materials target exactly the skills that you need to pass the GED. To develop these workbooks, we have built on decades of experience in teaching GED classes and preparing materials for hundreds of thousands of students who have passed the GED. We have studied the GED Tests thoroughly and have designed materials that will help you succeed on the tests.

To prepare for the GED Social Studies and Science Tests, you will need to learn to interpret graphics. Because so much information in our society is communicated through graphics, 50 to 60 percent of the questions of the GED Social Studies and Science Tests use them—either alone or in combination with some written text.

- **Tables and Charts**—Tables and charts are convenient ways of displaying a great deal of data at a glance.
- **Graphs**—Pictographs as well as circle, bar, and line graphs use pictures and other visual information so that you can make comparisons or predict trends.
- **Drawings and Diagrams**—Drawings and diagrams represent objects and processes visually in a clear, concise format; accompanying labels can help you glean information with ease.
- **Editorial Cartoons**—Editorial cartoons sometimes poke fun at public figures and events and may express a point of view or an opinion critical of events and people.
- **Maps**—Maps are abstract representations of places. They can be used to show the natural features of Earth as well as political, historic, scientific, and other information.

As you read the descriptions above, you probably realized that you already interpret many graphics each and every day. The purpose of this book is to show you how to use your understanding of these skills to answer the types of questions you will see on the GED.

One advantage of this book is that for each of the strategies, we show you how you can apply it to two of the GED tests. That makes your effort in preparing for the tests much more efficient.

This is the ***GED Scoreboost* Advantage:** Practice the eleven strategies in this book, apply them to the three GED Practice activities, and then take the Practice GED Test at the end of this book.

You can also use another *Scoreboost* book to prepare for several of the tests at once:

GED Thinking Skills Scoreboost:
Critical Thinking for Reading, Social Studies, and Science

To get more information about these and other *GED Scoreboost* titles, see the back of this book.

Good luck!
The GED Scoreboost Team

STRATEGY 1 Interpret Charts and Tables

To answer some questions on the GED, you must interpret information in **charts** and **tables.** In charts and tables, information is arranged vertically in columns and horizontally in rows. The information can be in words, numbers, or both. Before answering any questions, **preview** the table or chart by scanning the title and checking the column heads.

SAMPLE GED TABLE SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • Economics

Cash Investments

Type of Account	Typical Yield	Typical Minimum Investment
Passbook savings	1.50%	None
Bank money market	1.78%	$1,000
3- to 6-month certificate of deposit	2.50%	$100
Mutual fund money market	3.46%	$1,000 to $25,000
3- to 6-month U.S. Treasury bill	3.62%	$1,000

PREVIEW QUESTIONS

What is the topic of this table? _____

According to the title, the table is about *cash investments*.

What type of information is in this table? _____

Based on the column heads, the table has information about *types of accounts*, *yields*, and *minimum investments*.

GED Question

Suppose your child had $60 of birthday present money to invest. Which type of account would you open for him or her?

(1) passbook savings
(2) bank money market
(3) 3- to 6-month certificate of deposit
(4) mutual fund money market account
(5) 3- to 6-month U.S. Treasury bill

THINK: *The third column of the table has information about minimum amounts to invest.*

Choice (1) is correct, because there is no minimum for passbook savings accounts.
Choice (2) has a $1,000 minimum—too high.
Choice (3) has a $100 minimum—too high.
Choice (4) has a $1,000 to $25,000 minimum—too high.
Choice (5) has a $1,000 minimum—too high.

ANSWER: Choice (1)

TESTWISE
① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Carefully preview tables, asking yourself,
What is the topic of this table?
What types of information does the table show?

Apply the Strategy

SCIENCE TEST • Life Science

Questions 1 and 2 refer to the following information about dolphins.

People think dolphins are large, playful animals. Dolphins star in water shows and movies, and they swim with tourists on dolphin tours. But scientists are discovering that the reality about dolphins does not match our myths about them.

Dolphins: Myth Versus Reality

Myth	Reality
Dolphins like being with people.	Tourists who swim with dolphins are often bitten and pushed.
Dolphins save people from drowning.	The dolphins are probably just playing with the person as if he or she were debris.
Dolphins are as smart as we are.	Dolphins don't have our language and problem-solving abilities, but they can process sounds very well.
Dolphins speak their own language.	It's unlikely that dolphins have language, but they do identify themselves with whistles.
Dolphins are kindly animals.	Dolphins beat animals to death even when they don't eat them.

1. What is the main idea of the information?

   THINK: *What are the passage and chart mainly about? What idea do the details support?*

   (1) Dolphins play a large role in the entertainment and tourism industries.
   (2) Scientists dislike dolphins.
   (3) The truth about dolphin behavior often contradicts people's ideas about dolphins.
   (4) Dolphins are very smart animals, possessing problem-solving abilities.
   (5) Dolphins kill other animals even when they do not want to eat them.

2. Which is the most likely reason wild dolphins bite tourists who swim with them?

   THINK: *Why would dolphins lash out at people near them?*

   (1) to eat the tourists
   (2) to save the tourists from drowning
   (3) to show they are happy
   (4) to protect themselves
   (5) to identify themselves

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • Civics and Government

Questions 3 and 4 refer to information about the opening and closing of polls from a state voter guide.

According to state statute 17-18-11, the polls in all cities and towns will remain open until 9:00 P.M. Any person eligible to vote who is in line to vote at 9:00 P.M. will be allowed to cast a vote before the polls close. Local polls will open at the following times:

City or Town	Polls Open	Comment
Barrington	7 A.M.	
Charlestown	7 A.M.	For the biennial general election; other elections, 9 A.M.
Hopkinton	6 A.M.	For a primary election, 9 A.M.
Middletown	8 A.M.	For a presidential election, 7 A.M.
Smithtown	7 A.M.	
West Barton	7 A.M.	For a primary election, 9 A.M.

3. Which of the following would be a good title for the table above?

   (1) Election Day
   (2) Where to Vote
   (3) Opening Times of Polls
   (4) State Voting Statutes
   (5) City and Town Polls

4. Based on the information above, what is the schedule of the Middletown polls for a primary election?

   (1) 7 A.M. to 7 P.M.
   (2) 7 A.M. to 9 P.M.
   (3) 8 A.M. to 7 P.M.
   (4) 8 A.M. to 8 P.M.
   (5) 8 A.M. to 9 P.M.

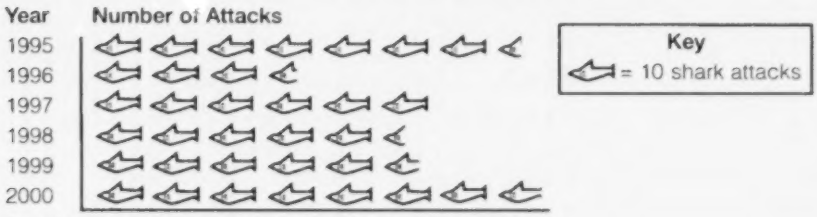
Answers start on page 40.

STRATEGY 2 Work with Pictographs

Occasionally on the GED you will be asked questions based on a pictograph. A **pictograph** is a chart or graph that uses pictures or symbols to represent information. When you preview a pictograph, read the title and the key. The title usually gives the main idea, and the **key** tells you what the symbols represent. The key helps you decode the information in the pictograph.

SAMPLE PICTOGRAPH SCIENCE TEST • Life Science

Number of Worldwide Unprovoked Shark Attacks



Source: International Shark Attack File, Florida Museum of Natural History

PREVIEW QUESTIONS

What is the topic of this pictograph? _____

According to the title, the pictograph shows *how many people throughout the world were victims of unprovoked attacks by sharks.*

What does the key indicate? _____

The key indicates that *1 shark symbol represents 10 shark attacks.*

GED Question

Approximately how many unprovoked shark attacks were recorded in 1995?

(1) 55
(2) 65
(3) 70
(4) 75
(5) 79

THINK: *In the 1995 row, there are 7 whole sharks and 1 half shark. The key says that 1 shark equals 10 attacks, so 7 sharks equal 70 attacks, and the half shark equals 5 attacks.*

In 1995, there were about _____ unprovoked shark attacks.

In 1995, there were about *75* unprovoked shark attacks.

ANSWER: Choice (4)

TESTWISE ① ② ③ ④ ⑤

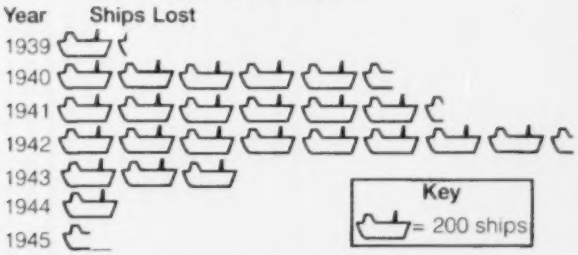
Carefully preview pictographs, asking yourself,
What is the topic of this pictograph?
What does the key show?

Apply the Strategy

Social Studies Test • World History

Questions 1 through 3 refer to this pictograph of shipping losses during World War II.

Number of Allied Merchant Ships Lost During World War II



1. Approximately how many Allied merchant ships were lost during 1943?

   Think: *What does one ship stand for? How many ships are represented for 1943?*

   (1) 3
   (2) 200
   (3) 300
   (4) 600
   (5) 900

2. In terms of Allied shipping losses, which was the worst year of the war?

   Think: *Which year shows the most ships?*

   (1) 1940
   (2) 1941
   (3) 1942
   (4) 1943
   (5) 1944

3. Which statement best summarizes the pictograph?

   Think: *Which statement best reflects the main point of the pictograph?*

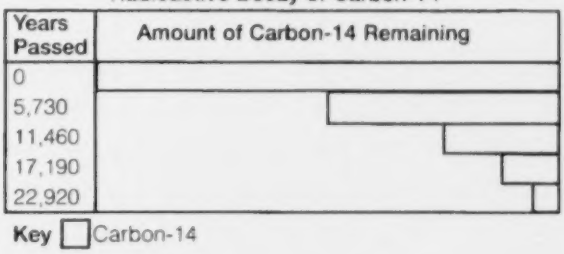
   (1) Shipping losses rose steadily during the war.
   (2) Shipping losses held constant during the war.
   (3) Shipping losses first rose and then fell sharply during the war.
   (4) The Allies lost more than 10,000 merchant ships during the war.
   (5) The Allies lost the war.

Science Test • Earth and Space Science

Questions 4 through 6 refer to this paragraph and graph about carbon-14.

Geologists date remains of living things by measuring the carbon-14 they contain. Carbon-14 decays at a known rate after a living thing dies.

Radioactive Decay of Carbon-14



4. In the remains of an organism, how much carbon-14 is left after 11,460 years?

   (1) all of it
   (2) one-half of it
   (3) one-quarter of it
   (4) one-eighth of it
   (5) one-sixteenth of it

5. Suppose that a sample from a dead tree contains about one-half of the carbon-14 that a living tree contains. About how long ago did the tree die?

   (1) this year
   (2) 5,730 years ago
   (3) 11,460 years ago
   (4) 17,190 years ago
   (5) 22,920 years ago

6. What is the main idea of the paragraph and pictograph?

   (1) The remains of living things can be dated by the amount of carbon-14 they contain.
   (2) Carbon-14 decays at a known rate.
   (3) Carbon-14 is radioactive.
   (4) Half of the carbon-14 in a sample has decayed after 5,730 years.
   (5) Living things leave remains after they die.

Answers start on page 40.

STRATEGY 3 Use Bar Graphs to Make Comparisons

Bar graphs frequently appear on the GED tests, so understanding how to read and interpret them is important. A **bar graph** uses horizontal or vertical bars to display information. Each bar stands for an item, and the length of the bar stands for the amount. You can make instant **comparisons** among the items on a graph just by looking at the relative lengths of the bars.

SAMPLE BAR GRAPH Social Studies Test • Geography

Preview Questions

What is the topic of this bar graph?

_____

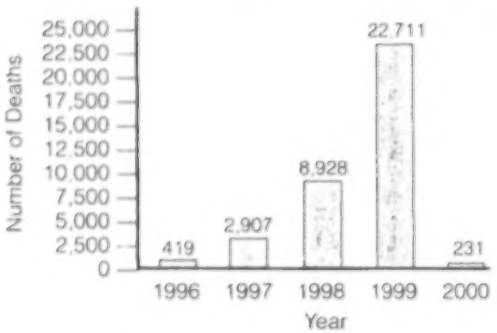
According to the title, the bar graph is about *the number of people who died in earthquakes from 1996 to 2000.*

What type of information is in this table?

_____

Based on the axis labels ("Number of Deaths" and "Year"), the bar graph has information about *the number of deaths per year.*

Estimated Deaths from Earthquakes, 1996–2000



Source: National Earthquake Information Center, U.S. Geological Survey

GED Question

According to the graph, which year had the most deaths from earthquakes?

(1) 1996
(2) 1997
(3) 1998
(4) 1999
(5) 2000

Think: *The size of the bar represents the amount, so the tallest bar represents the most deaths.*

Choice (1) had 419 deaths—not the most.
Choice (2) had 2,907 deaths—not the most.
Choice (3) had 8,928 deaths—not the most.
Choice (4) had 22,711 deaths—the most.
Choice (5) 231 deaths—not the most.

Answer: Choice (4)

TESTWISE ① ② ③ ④ ⑤

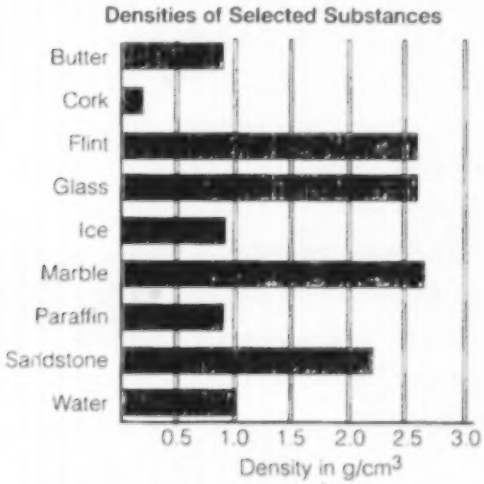
Carefully read bar graphs, asking yourself,
What does the title tell about the topic of this graph?
What do the axis labels tell about the information shown?
To compare the data in the graph, what should you look at?

Apply the Strategy

SCIENCE TEST • Chemistry

Questions 1 and 2 refer to the following information and bar graph about density.

The density of a substance is a measure of the amount of matter contained in a given volume of the substance. For solids and liquids, density is measured in grams per cubic centimeter (g/cm^3). The density of water is 1.0. Any substance with a density less than 1.0 will float in water. The following graph shows the densities of some common substances.



1. Approximately what is the density of flint?

   THINK: *Which bar stands for flint and what is its approximate length, measured on the horizontal axis?*

   (1) 1.0 g/cm^3
   (2) 1.5 g/cm^3
   (3) 2.0 g/cm^3
   (4) 2.5 g/cm^3
   (5) 3.0 g/cm^3

2. Which of the following will sink in water?

   THINK: *Which substance has a density greater than that of water?*

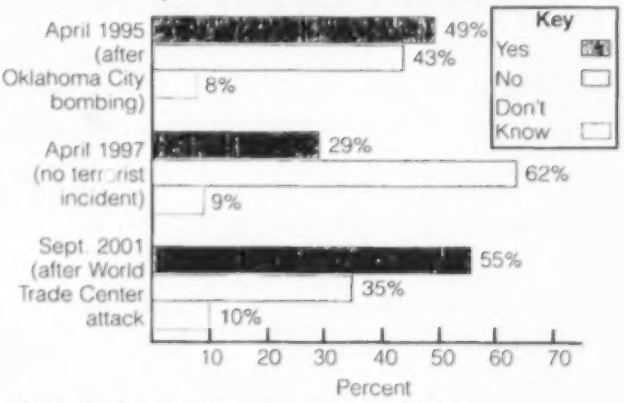
   (1) butter
   (2) cork
   (3) glass
   (4) ice
   (5) paraffin

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • Civics and Government

Questions 3 and 4 are based on this paragraph and bar graph about a poll on civil liberties.

Pollsters asked this question at different times to see how public opinion changes: *In order to curb terrorism in this country, do you think it will be necessary for the average person to give up some civil liberties, or not?* The results are shown in the graph.

Percent of Americans Who Say It Is Necessary to Give Up Civil Liberties to Curb Terrorism



Source: The Pew Research Center and the *Los Angeles Times*

3. After the World Trade Center attack in 2001, what percentage of people thought it necessary to give up some civil liberties to combat terrorism?

   (1) 62%
   (2) 55%
   (3) 49%
   (4) 43%
   (5) 29%

4. Which fact supports the conclusion that when terrorist incidents occur in the U.S., Americans become more willing to give up civil liberties?

   (1) In 1995, 8% were undecided.
   (2) In 1997, 9% answered "Don't Know."
   (3) In 1995, 43% thought it would be unnecessary to give up civil liberties.
   (4) The percentage of people willing to give up civil liberties was higher in 2001 than in 1995.
   (5) The percentage of people willing to give up civil liberties was higher in 2001 than in 1997.

Answers start on page 40.

STRATEGY 1 See Trends in Line Graphs

To answer some GED questions, you will have to interpret line graphs. **Line graphs** are used to show the relationship between two types of data. Frequently they show a change in quantity over time. The data is first plotted on the graph in dots, and then the dots are connected to show a trend. When reading a line graph, you can find specific information and also note general trends in the data.

SAMPLE LINE GRAPH SCIENCE TEST • Earth and Space Science

PREVIEW QUESTIONS

What is the topic of this line graph?

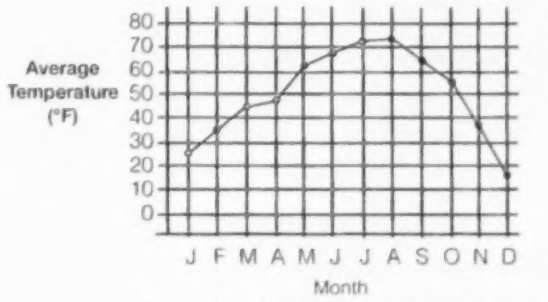
_____

According to the title, the line graph is about *the average temperature at Chicago's O'Hare Airport in the year 2000.*

What type of information is in this graph?

_____

Average Temperature at O'Hare Airport, Chicago, 2000



Source: National Weather Service, Central Region

Based on the axis labels, the line graph has information about *the average temperature in degrees Fahrenheit (°F) for each month.*

GED Question

In 2000, when did the biggest change in average monthly temperature take place?

(1) between January and February
(2) between March and April
(3) between June and July
(4) between September and October
(5) between November and December

THINK: *The steeper the slope of the trend line, the greater the temperature change.*

Choice (1) is incorrect; the temperature rose less than 10°F.
Choice (2) is incorrect; the temperature rose less than 5°F.
Choice (3) is incorrect; the temperature rose less than 5°F.
Choice (4) is incorrect; the temperature fell less than 10°F.
Choice (5) is correct; the temperature fell about 20°F.

ANSWER: Choice (5)

TESTWISE
① ② ③ ④ ⑤

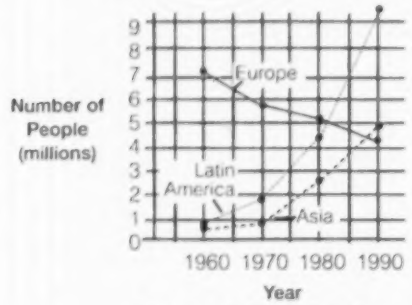
Carefully read line graphs, asking yourself,
What is the topic of this line graph?
What data is plotted on the graph, and what trends are shown?

Apply the Strategy

Social Studies Test • U.S. History

Questions 1 and 2 refer to the line graphs showing changes in the number of foreign-born U.S. residents in recent decades.

U.S. Population Born in Asia, Europe, and Latin America, 1960–1990



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

1. In 1960, approximately how many people living in the United States had been born in Asia?

   Think: *Which line represents people born in Asia? What number does this graph show for 1960?*

   (1) 500,000
   (2) 1,000,000
   (3) 2,000,000
   (4) 5,000,000
   (5) 7,500,000

2. Which of the following statements is supported by the data on the graph?

   Think: *Which choice can be proved true using the information shown in the graph?*

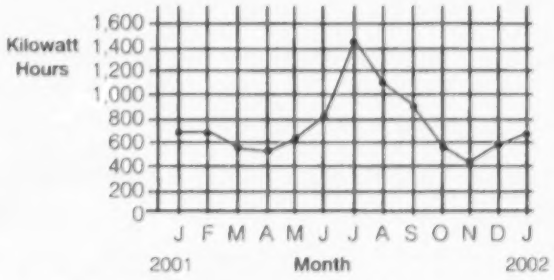
   (1) The number of U.S. residents born in Asia remained steady between 1960 and 1990.
   (2) The number of U.S. residents born in Latin America declined between 1960 and 1970.
   (3) In 1990, the number of U.S. residents born in Europe was similar to the number of U.S. residents born in Asia.
   (4) In 1990, more U.S. residents had been born in Asia than in Latin America.
   (5) The sharp rise in the number of U.S. residents born in Latin America was due to an increased number of political refugees from that region.

Science Test • Physics

Questions 3 and 4 refer to the following paragraph and line graph about electricity use.

One electric company includes a line graph on its bill that shows the household's use of electricity, measured in kilowatt-hours, for the previous 13 months. Below is the graph from the January 2002 bill of a New England family.

Household Electricity Use, January 2001 to January 2002



3. How do the kilowatt-hours used in January 2002 compare with those used in January 2001?

   (1) About 300 more kilowatt-hours were used in January 2002 than in January 2001.
   (2) About 150 more kilowatt-hours were used in January 2002 than in January 2001.
   (3) About the same number of kilowatt-hours were used in January 2002 as in January 2001.
   (4) About 150 fewer kilowatt-hours were used in January 2002 than in January 2001.
   (5) About 300 fewer kilowatt-hours were used in January 2002 than in January 2001.

4. If this family wanted to save money on electricity, which action would likely decrease their bills the most?

   (1) turning off lights when not in use
   (2) turning off air conditioners in the summer
   (3) turning off electric space heaters in the winter
   (4) running the washing machine only if it is full
   (5) hanging clothes out to dry in spring and fall

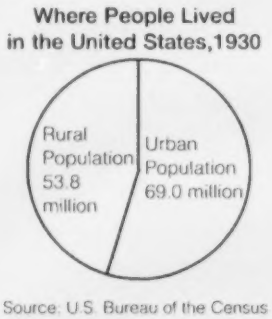
Answers start on page 40.

STRATEGY Relate Parts to a Whole in Circle Graphs

One skill you will need on the GED is interpreting **circle graphs.** Circle graphs show the parts of a whole. Each wedge of a circle graph represents the amount of a part or a percentage. When you read a circle graph, you can see the relative sizes of the parts compared to one another and to the whole.

SAMPLE CIRCLE GRAPH SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • U.S. History

At the start of the Great Depression, most people in the United States either lived in cities or lived in the country. Few people lived in suburbs, so the U.S. Bureau of the Census did not count the suburban population separately.



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

PREVIEW QUESTIONS

What is the topic of this circle graph?

_____

According to the title, the topic of the circle graph is *where people lived in the United States in 1930.*

What type of information is in this circle graph? _____

Based on the labels, the graph has information about *the urban and rural populations.*

GED Question

According to the graph, what portion of the U.S. population lived in rural areas in 1930?

(1) the whole population
(2) about three-quarters of the population
(3) almost half of the population
(4) about one-quarter of the population
(5) about one-eighth of the population

THINK: *Which portion of the graph represents the rural population? What part of the whole population does it represent?*

Choice (1) is incorrect; the whole population is made up of both the rural and the urban populations.
Choice (2) is incorrect; the part representing the rural population is not that big.
Choice (3) is correct; the part representing the rural population is almost half of the whole circle.
Choice (4) is incorrect; the part representing the rural population is not that small.
Choice (5) is incorrect; the part representing the rural population is not that small.

ANSWER: Choice (3)

TESTWISE ① ② ③ ④ ⑤

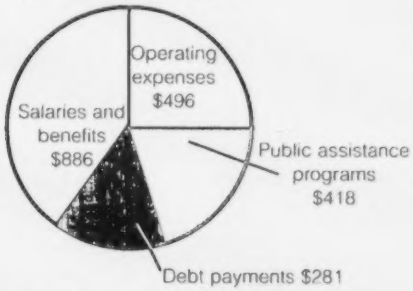
Carefully read circle graphs, asking yourself,
What is the topic of this circle graph?
What does each of the parts represent?

Apply the Strategy

Social Studies Test • Economics

Questions 1 through 3 refer to the following circle graph of a large suburban county's expenses.

The County Budget: Expenses, 2001
(in millions of dollars)



1. What was almost one-quarter of the county's 2001 budget spent on?

   Think: *Which expense is represented by about one-quarter of the graph?*

   (1) salaries and benefits
   (2) operating expenses
   (3) public assistance programs
   (4) debt payments
   (5) other expenses

2. How much did the county spend on debt payments?

   Think: *Which portion of the graph shows debt payments and which amount does it represent?*

   (1) $2,810,000,000
   (2) $886,000,000
   (3) $496,000,000
   (4) $418,000,000
   (5) $281,000,000

3. Which statement is supported by the data?

   Think: *What is true, given the information in the graph?*

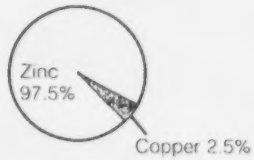
   (1) Paying county workers is the largest expense.
   (2) Public assistance is the smallest expense.
   (3) Salaries cost more than benefits do.
   (4) Operating expenses were highest in 2000.
   (5) The county spent more than it took in.

Science Test • Chemistry

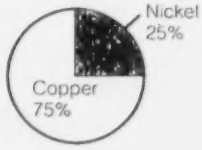
Questions 4 through 6 refer to the following paragraph and circle graphs about coins.

Pennies, with their reddish-gold color, look like they are made mostly of copper. Nickels, with a dull silvery sheen, look like they are made mostly of nickel. However, appearances can be deceiving when it comes to the makeup of coins, as the following graphs show:

Metal Composition of a Penny



Metal Composition of a Nickel



4. What percentage of a penny is made of copper?

   (1) 100%
   (2) 97.5%
   (3) 75%
   (4) 25%
   (5) 2.5%

5. According to the graphs, what is one difference between a penny and a nickel?

   (1) Pennies contain copper, but nickels don't.
   (2) Pennies contain zinc, but nickels don't.
   (3) Pennies contain nickel, but nickels don't.
   (4) Pennies have more copper than nickels do.
   (5) Pennies have more nickel than nickels do.

6. Pennies are made of a zinc core covered by a thin layer of copper plating. What does this explain?

   (1) the small amount of copper in each penny
   (2) the small amount of zinc in each penny
   (3) the small amount of nickel in each penny
   (4) the large amount of copper in each nickel
   (5) the fact that pennies have more zinc than nickels do

Answers start on page 41.

GED Practice 1: Charts and Graphs

SCIENCE TEST • Life Science

Questions 1 through 3 refer to the following paragraph and table about caesarean sections.

In a caesarean section, a baby is surgically removed from the uterus rather than being delivered through the birth canal. In the United States, 21 percent of babies are delivered by caesarean section. The wide use of this surgery can be attributed to the development of fetal monitors, which indicate when a baby is in distress. Several conditions frequently result in caesarean births, as shown below.

Conditions Often Leading to a Caesarean Delivery

Condition	What Happens	Percent Delivered by Caesarean
Cephalopelvic disproportion	The baby's head is too large to fit safely through the birth canal.	96.1
Breech presentation	The baby is positioned to be born feet-first rather than head-first.	83
Dysfunctional labor	Labor is not progressing, and the mother and/or baby are under undue stress.	80.4%
Placenta previa	The placenta, which attaches the umbilical cord to the uterus, is blocking the baby's birth.	77.4
Cord prolapse	The umbilical cord is pinched by the baby's head or shoulders.	63.9
Abruptio placentae	The placenta prematurely separates from the wall of the uterus.	53.8

Source: National Center for Health Statistics

1. What percentage of cases of cord prolapse are delivered by caesarean?

   (1) 21%
   (2) 53.8%
   (3) 63.9%
   (4) 80.4%
   (5) 96.1%

2. What do placenta previa and abruptio placentae have in common?

   (1) Both occur prior to the start of labor.
   (2) Both result in damage to the mother.
   (3) Both involve problems with the baby's position.
   (4) Both involve problems with the placenta.
   (5) Both involve a blockage of the mother's birth canal.

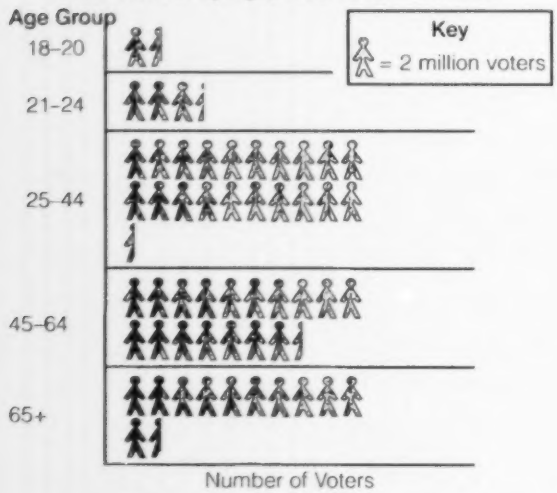
3. Doctors know that fetal monitors often indicate trouble when the baby is actually fine. Still, they find it hard to ignore the monitor and often perform a caesarean even when it turns out to have been unnecessary. What does this indicate that most doctors value highly?

   (1) accurate technology
   (2) inexpensive technology
   (3) diagnostic skills
   (4) a warm bedside manner
   (5) the baby's welfare

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • Civics and Government

Questions 4 through 6 refer to the following pictograph about voter turnout by age.

Voter Turnout by Age, 1996 Federal Election



Source: Federal Election Commission

4. In the 1996 election, approximately how many voters were between 25 and 44 years old?

   (1) 20.5
   (2) 20.5 million
   (3) 21.4 million
   (4) 34.5 million
   (5) 41 million

5. About how many people voted in the 1996 federal election?

   (1) 26.25 million
   (2) 52.5 million
   (3) 109 million
   (4) 157.5 million
   (5) 210 million

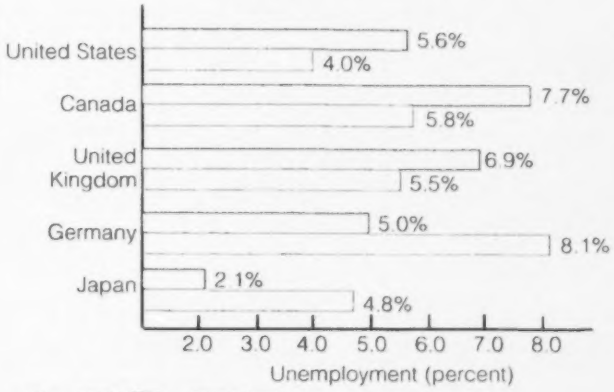
6. Which of the following statements about the 1996 federal election is supported by the data in the pictograph?

   (1) In 1996, the largest group of voters was aged 45 to 64 years.
   (2) In 1996, fewer 18 to 20 year olds voted than any other age group.
   (3) More people in the 25 to 44 age group voted Democratic than Republican.
   (4) In 1996, there were about 2.5 million voters aged 21 to 24.
   (5) The majority of voters were 65 or older.

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • Economics

Questions 7 and 8 refer to the following bar graph.

Civilian Unemployment in Selected Nations, 1990 and 2000



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

7. Which of the following statements is the best summary of the data on the graph?

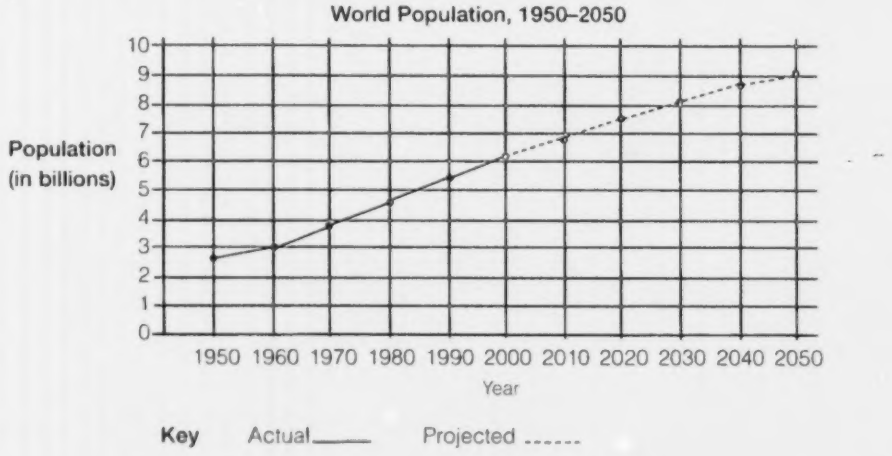
   (1) Between 1990 and 2000, civilian unemployment fell in the United States.
   (2) Between 1990 and 2000, unemployment in Germany and Japan rose.
   (3) Between 1990 and 2000, unemployment fell in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.
   (4) Between 1990 and 2000, unemployment fell in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, and rose in Germany and Japan.
   (5) In both 1990 and 2000, the United States had a lower unemployment rate than did Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, and Japan.

8. Which of the following people would have the most use for the data in this graph?

   (1) a military recruiter planning a recruitment drive
   (2) a mayor planning a reelection campaign
   (3) an unemployed worker applying for government benefits
   (4) a small business owner considering hiring more staff
   (5) an economist studying international labor trends

Questions 9 through 11 refer to the following paragraph and line graph on world population growth.

Demographers are scientists who study and analyze population data. They also forecast future population based on past growth rates and estimates of future growth rates. World population from 1950 to 2050 is shown in the following graph.



Source: International Data Base, U.S. Bureau of the Census

9. According to the graph, approximately what will the world population be in 2030?

   (1) 4 billion
   (2) 6 billion
   (3) 8 billion
   (4) 10 billion
   (5) 12 billion

10. In 1960, the world population was about 3 billion. How many years did it take for the population to double?

    (1) 10 years
    (2) 20 years
    (3) 30 years
    (4) 40 years
    (5) 50 years

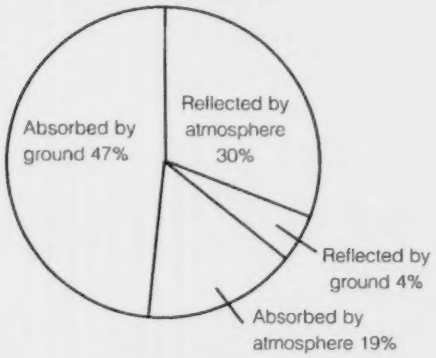
11. Suppose that new data indicates that the spread of AIDS will cause world population to grow more slowly than previously forecast over the next fifty years. Based on this prediction, how would the line graph for world population from 1950–2050 change?

    (1) The graph would not change at all.
    (2) The part of the graph showing 1950–2000 would stay the same; the part of the graph showing 2000–2050 would be less steep.
    (3) The part of the graph showing 1950–2000 would stay the same; the part of the graph showing 2000–2050 would be steeper.
    (4) The part of the graph showing 1950–2000 would be less steep; the part of the graph showing 2000–2050 would stay the same.
    (5) The part of the graph showing 1950–2000 would be less steep and the part of the graph showing 2000–2050 would be steeper.

SCIENCE TEST • Earth and Space Science

Questions 12 and 13 refer to the circle graph.

What Happens to the Sun's Energy When It Reaches Earth



12. How does the amount of energy that is absorbed compare to the amount reflected?

    (1) About the same amounts are absorbed and reflected.
    (2) About twice as much is absorbed as is reflected.
    (3) About twice as much is reflected as is absorbed.
    (4) About ten times as much is absorbed as is reflected.
    (5) About ten times as much is reflected as is absorbed.

13. Some houses are built partially underground to save on energy costs. Why would an underground house save on energy costs?

    (1) Sunlight would be reflected from the roof.
    (2) Air would circulate through skylights.
    (3) The heat in the ground would warm the house.
    (4) The heat would be reflected off the ground into the house.
    (5) Much heat would be absorbed by the atmosphere.

Answers start on page 41.

SCOREBOOST EVALUATION AND STUDY PLAN

Check your answers. Fill in the results in the chart and make a study plan.

Questions	Strategy	Pages	Number Correct/Total
1, 2, 3	Interpret Charts and Tables	2–3	_____/3
4, 5, 6	Work with Pictographs	4–5	_____/3
7, 8	Use Bar Graphs to Make Comparisons	6–7	_____/2
9, 10, 11	See Trends in Line Graphs	8–9	_____/3
12, 13	Relate Parts of a Whole in Circle Graphs	10–11	_____/2
			Total _____/13

Results

- ☐ Six or fewer correct • *Need to study more—make a plan.*
- ☐ Seven to ten correct: • *Need a quick review.*
- ☐ Eleven to thirteen correct • *Ready to move on!*

Plan—I need to work more on:

- ☐ Charts and Tables
- ☐ Pictographs
- ☐ Bar Graphs
- ☐ Line Graphs
- ☐ Circle Graphs

STRATEGY Interpret Drawings

On the GED tests, you will have to answer questions based on drawings. **Drawings** often show something of historical or scientific interest. They may have titles that tell you what the drawing is, and labels that identify the parts of the object. To preview a drawing, read the title and labels.

SAMPLE DRAWING Social Studies Test • World History

Preview Questions

What is the subject of this drawing?

_____

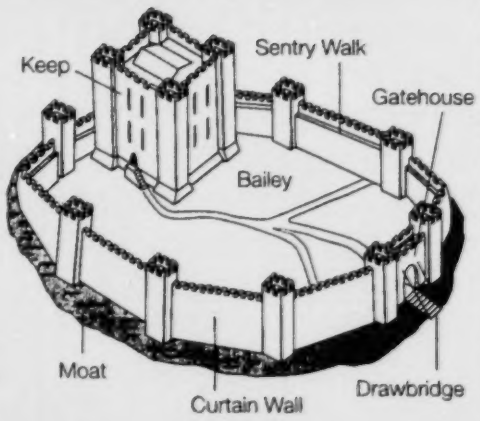
According to the title, this drawing shows *a stone castle built by the Normans.*

What type of information is in this drawing?

_____

Based on the labels, the drawing has information about *the parts of a castle, such as the drawbridge, moat, curtain wall, bailey, and keep.*

A Norman Stone Castle



GED Question

Suppose you were in charge of defense at this castle. If an enemy army were approaching the gatehouse, what would you do first?

(1) Order everyone outside the curtain wall.
(2) Drain the moat.
(3) Pull up the drawbridge
(4) Ask everyone to meet in the bailey.
(5) Lock up the keep.

Think: *How would enemies enter this castle if they could?*

Choice (1) is incorrect; being outside the wall leaves people unprotected.
Choice (2) is incorrect; draining the moat would make it easier to cross.
Choice (3) is correct; pulling up the drawbridge closes the only easy way to get in.
Choice (4) is incorrect; calling a meeting in the bailey might be helpful at some point, but it is not the first thing you would do.
Choice (5) is incorrect; you would only lock the keep if the enemy breached the curtain wall.

Answer: Choice (3)

TESTWISE ① ② ③ ④ ⑤

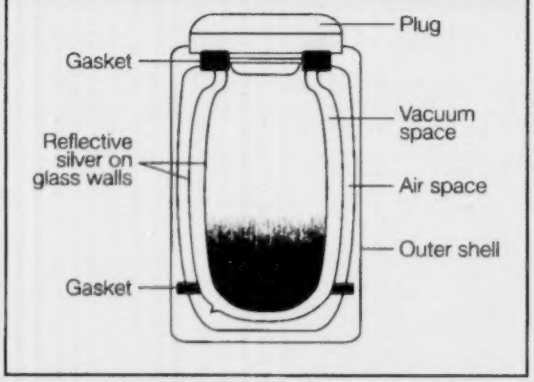
Carefully look over drawings, asking yourself, *What is this a drawing of? What do the labels show?*

Apply the Strategy

SCIENCE TEST • Physics

Questions 1 and 2 refer to the following drawing and paragraph about a vacuum flask.

Cross-Section of a Vacuum Flask



A vacuum flask, also called a Thermos bottle, works by cutting heat loss. The vacuum between the two glass walls of the inner container prevents heat loss through convection and conduction. Reflective silver layers on the walls of the inner container cut down heat loss by radiation. The air space between the inner container and the shell minimizes heat loss through conduction.

1. What is right under the outer shell of a vacuum flask?

   THINK: *What is next to the outer layer of a Thermos bottle?*

   (1) a vacuum space
   (2) the glass wall of the inner container
   (3) the chamber of the inner container
   (4) an air space
   (5) the contents of the flask

2. What would be the result of removing the plug?

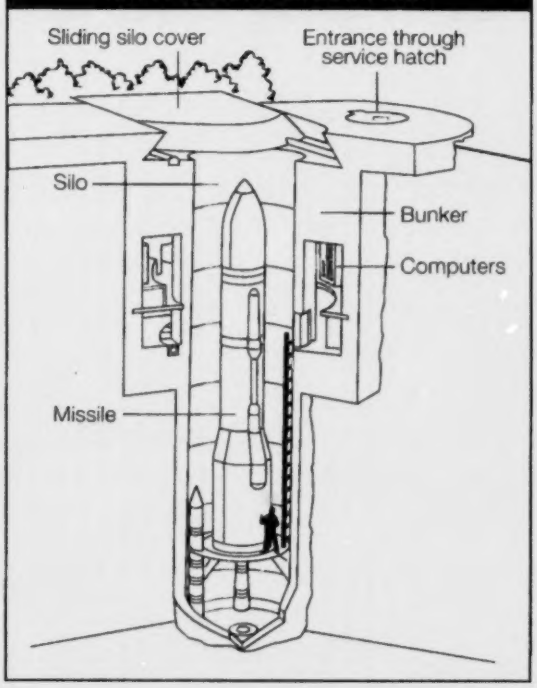
   THINK: *Where is the plug and what would happen if the plug were removed?*

   (1) More heat would pass through the opening.
   (2) More air would circulate through the air space.
   (3) The vacuum space would fill up with air.
   (4) Gaskets would cover the opening.
   (5) Gaskets would break.

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • U.S. History

Questions 3 and 4 refer to the diagram of a missile silo.

Underground Missile Silo



3. Which portion of this structure is the silo?

   (1) the concrete structure on the surface
   (2) the underground shaft that holds the missile
   (3) the concrete container for the computers
   (4) the sliding cover
   (5) the missile

4. Which of the following is suggested by the sliding silo cover in the diagram?

   (1) The cover is permanently sealed to protect the missile.
   (2) The cover is permanently open to give access to the missile.
   (3) The cover is opened when someone needs to enter the missile service area.
   (4) The cover is opened when the missile is to be launched.
   (5) An alarm goes off when the cover slides open.

Answers start on page 42.

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STRATEGY 7 Figure Out Diagrams

On the GED, diagrams can show many things. A **diagram** may show a process, such as how a bill becomes a law. It may show a cycle, such as the life cycle of a butterfly. It may show a time line, such as events leading up to the Civil War. Or it may be a visual representation of something that's hard to picture in your mind, such as a molecule of water or the forces acting on a bullet. To figure out a diagram, read its title and labels and then examine it in detail.

SAMPLE GED DIAGRAM SCIENCE TEST • Chemistry

PREVIEW QUESTIONS

What is the topic of this diagram?

_____

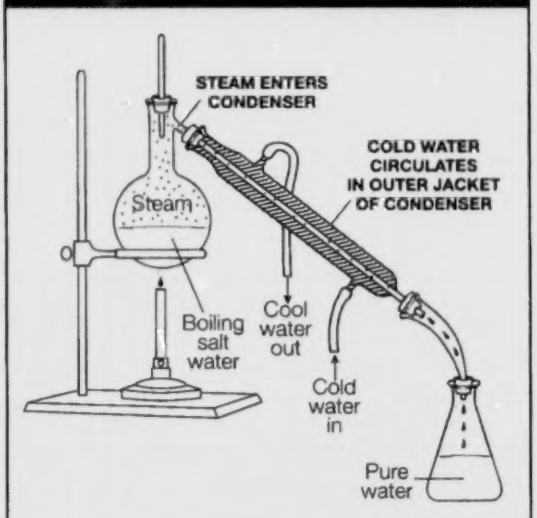
According to the title, diagram shows *the distillation of salt water,* which is how salt water is distilled into pure water.

What do the labels explain?

_____

The labels identify *the parts of the equipment and explain what happens during the distillation process.*

The Distillation of Salt Water



GED Question

According to the diagram, what is the first step in the process of distilling salt water?

(1) putting cold water in the outer jacket of the condenser
(2) emptying the condenser jacket of all water
(3) heating salt water to its boiling point
(4) heating the pure water in the flask holding the distillate
(5) catching condensed pure water in a flask

THINK: *What must happen first in the distillation process?*

Choice (1) is not the first part of this process.
Choice (2) would stop the condensing process.
Choice (3) is the first step, shown on the left side of the diagram.
Choice (4) is not shown in the diagram at all.
Choice (5) is the last step, not the first step.

ANSWER: Choice (3)

TESTWISE ① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Carefully review diagrams, asking yourself,
What does this diagram show?
What do the labels explain?

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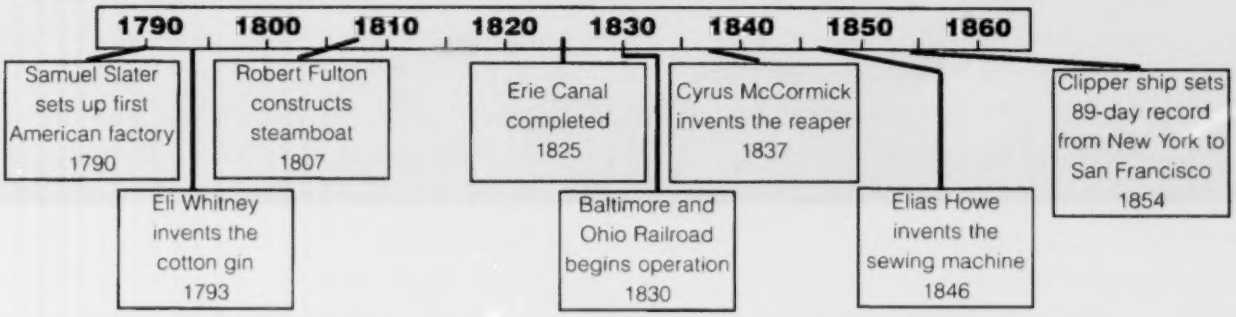
Apply the Strategy

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • U.S. History

Questions 1 and 2 refer to this time line on the Industrial Revolution in the United States.


1790
1800
1810
1820
1830
1840
1850
1860
Samuel Slater sets up first American factory 1790
Robert Fulton constructs steamboat 1807
Erie Canal completed 1825
Cyrus McCormick invents the reaper 1837
Clipper ship sets 89-day record from New York to San Francisco 1854
Eli Whitney invents the cotton gin 1793
Baltimore and Ohio Railroad begins operation 1830
Elias Howe invents the sewing machine 1846

1. Which event occurred before the Erie Canal was completed?

   THINK: *On the time line, which of the following events comes before the completion of the Erie Canal?*

   (1) the invention of the reaper
   (2) the invention of the sewing machine
   (3) the invention of the cotton gin
   (4) the opening of the B&O Railroad
   (5) the 89-day sailing trip from New York to San Francisco by clipper ship

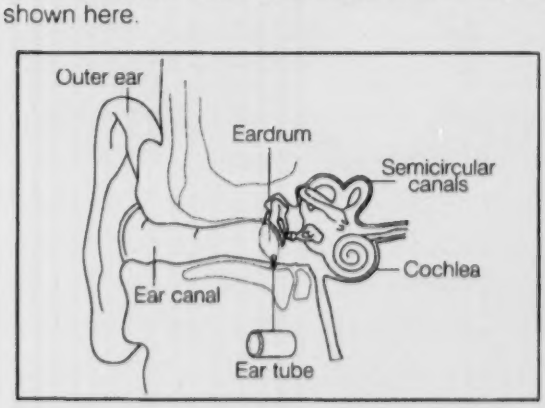
2. What conclusion can be drawn from the time line?

   (1) The invention of the reaper was the most important development in the Industrial Revolution.
   (2) The Industrial Revolution involved advances in technology as well as transportation.
   (3) During the first half of the 19th century, great advances were made in air transportation.
   (4) The completion of the Erie Canal resulted in increased clipper ship traffic.
   (5) The B&O Railroad was the most important railroad of the 19th century.

SCIENCE TEST • Life Science

Questions 3 and 4 refer to the following information and diagram on ear infections.

When children get frequent ear infections, doctors sometimes insert ear tubes in the ear, as shown here.



3. Where does the ear tube go?

   THINK: *According to the arrow in the diagram, near or in what structure of the ear is the ear tube inserted?*

   (1) in the outer ear
   (2) just behind the outer ear
   (3) halfway down the ear canal
   (4) in the lower edge of the eardrum
   (5) in the cochlea

4. Which of the following is the best title for this information and diagram?

   (1) What Causes Ear Infections
   (2) The Structure of the Ear
   (3) How Ear Tubes Work
   (4) Healing Ear Infections
   (5) Ear Tubes: A Remedy for Ear Infections

Answers start on page 42.

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STRATEGY 8 Analyze Editorial Cartoons

On the GED Social Studies Test, you may be asked questions about editorial cartoons. **Editorial cartoons** sometimes poke fun at public figures and events. But many cartoons express a point of view or an opinion critical of events and people. When you preview a cartoon, read any words and scan the drawing. Look for symbols. Then figure out the cartoonist's main message.

SAMPLE GED EDITORIAL CARTOON SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • Economics

PREVIEW QUESTIONS

What is the setting of this cartoon?

_____

According to the sign on top, the setting *is a bank.*

What do the three signs above the people indicate?

_____

The three signs indicate that *the bank is offering loans for three car-related purposes.*

What is unusual about the loan categories?

_____

Offering loans for new and used cars is normal; *offering loans for filling a car with gas is not.*

J. R. Rose from *Byrd Newspapers*

GED Question

What main point is the cartoonist making?

(1) The bank will lend money for a new car.
(2) The bank will lend money for a used car.
(3) The bank will lend money for gas.
(4) The cost of buying and running an automobile is high.
(5) Prices are so high that people are having trouble paying for gas.

THINK: *What is the main idea of the cartoon?*

Choice (1) is a detail.
Choice (2) is a detail.
Choice (3) is a key detail, and through sarcastic humor, it supports the cartoon's main point.
Choice (4) is true, but it is not the cartoon's point.
Choice (5) is the point of the cartoon—that gas prices have soared beyond many people's budgets.

ANSWER: Choice (5)

TESTWISE ① ② ③ ④ ⑤

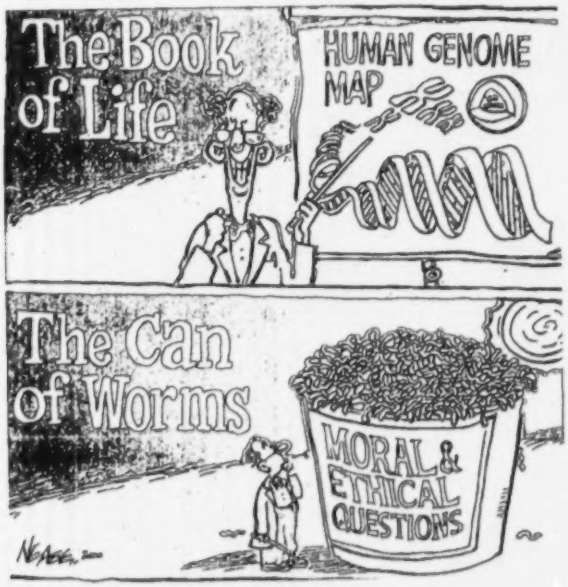
Carefully review editorial cartoons, asking yourself, *What do the words say and the images mean? How do the parts of the cartoon relate to each other? What is the cartoonist's main point?*

Apply the Strategy

SCIENCE • Life Science

Questions 1 through 5 refer to the following paragraph and cartoon on the Human Genome Project.

In 2000, scientists released a preliminary map of the human genome, the sequence of billions of DNA bases located in every human cell. The human genome encodes the genetic instructions for making a human being. Eventually this data, stored on computer, may revolutionize health care and medicine. Genetic testing for predisposition to disease, new drug treatments, new gene therapies, personalized health treatments, and altering the genome to improve health are all possible uses of the information in the genome. When the mapping of the genome was announced, reaction was mixed, as this cartoon shows.



Steve Nease from the *Niagara Falls Review*

1. Who is the man in the cartoon?

   THINK: *What clues in the cartoon suggest this man's occupation?*

   (1) a scientist
   (2) a science writer
   (3) a philosopher
   (4) a politician
   (5) a member of the public

2. Based on information in the paragraph, what does the diagram in the top panel of the cartoon show?

   THINK: *What is the title of the diagram in the top panel of the cartoon, and what does the paragraph explain about this?*

   (1) the paper on which the genome was mapped
   (2) human genetic material from a cell
   (3) a new species of animal
   (4) the results of genetic testing
   (5) a map of the human body

3. What is the main idea of the top panel of the cartoon?

   (1) To help people understand the human genome, you need to show diagrams.
   (2) The human genome map has the answers to all our questions about life.
   (3) People now understand everything about the human genome, or the "Book of Life."
   (4) Scientists are excited about learning how the human body works from the human genome map.
   (5) When a scientific discovery is made, the findings are formally presented.

4. What is the main idea of the bottom panel of the cartoon?

   (1) People who question our understanding of the human genome are like worms.
   (2) Scientists need to map the genome of worms.
   (3) The issues raised by knowledge of the human genome are troublesome.
   (4) The uses to which data from the human genome will be put are bad.
   (5) Everyone has the same attitude toward new knowledge about the human genome.

5. According to the cartoonist, what do scientists value the most?

   (1) communication skills
   (2) knowledge
   (3) reading
   (4) moral uncertainty
   (5) ethical debate

Answers start on page 42.

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GED Practice 2: Cartoons, Drawings, and Diagrams

Social Studies Test • Civics and Government

Questions 1 through 4 refer to the following political cartoon on voting.

Why should I exercise my rights ? My one little vote won't make ANY difference !
VOTE
2000 Regalia TIMES
TIMES
Bush - Gore Tied in Florida ?

Doug Regalia from the *Contra Costa Times*

1. Who is the man in the cartoon?

   (1) a candidate in an election
   (2) an official overseeing an election
   (3) a newspaper reporter
   (4) a potential voter
   (5) a vote counter in an election

2. Which of the following is an opinion of the cartoonist, rather than a fact?

   (1) Voting usually takes place in a voting booth.
   (2) U.S. citizens have the right to vote.
   (3) Election results in presidential elections are often headlined in newspapers.
   (4) Bush and Gore won about the same number of votes in Florida in 2000.
   (5) If everyone in Florida had voted, there might not have been such a close race.

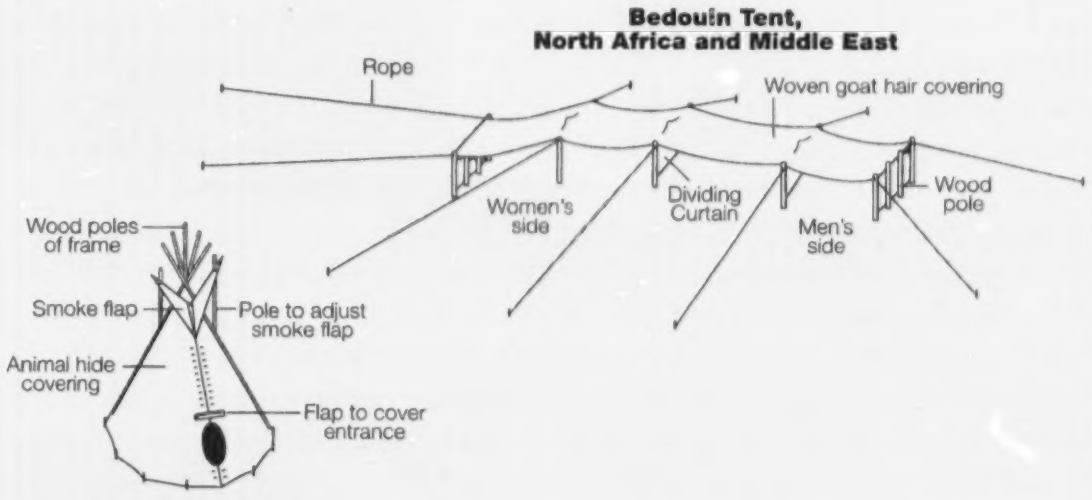
3. Some Florida votes were not included in the final count because the ballots were hard to interpret. What might the man whose words are shown in the left-hand panel say about this?

   (1) "My vote won't count anyway."
   (2) "The polls should be open longer."
   (3) "I should register to vote."
   (4) "Please give me a ballot."
   (5) "Voting by mail is better."

4. Because of the unusual results in the 2000 presidential election, as indicated by the headlines in the second panel, what might the man in the cartoon come to value more than he did in the past?

   (1) the right to privacy
   (2) the right to assemble peacefully
   (3) the right to vote
   (4) freedom of speech
   (5) freedom of the press

Questions 5 through 8 refer to the following drawings of dwellings.



5. What is the purpose of the ropes in a Bedouin tent?

   (1) to keep animals out of the tent
   (2) to keep sand out of the tent
   (3) to separate men's and women's quarters
   (4) to hold the tent in place
   (5) to provide an exit from the tent

6. If you were putting up a Plains Indian tepee, what would you do first?

   (1) Adjust the smoke flaps.
   (2) Put up the wooden frame poles.
   (3) Fold the cover into a bundle.
   (4) Put the cover over the frame.
   (5) Roll down the entrance flap.

7. What is one of the main similarities between a Plains Indian tepee and a Bedouin tent?

   (1) Both have coverings made from animal products.
   (2) Both are made of disposable materials and are meant to be thrown away after one use.
   (3) Both are rectangular in shape.
   (4) Both have dividing curtains.
   (5) Both have aluminum frame poles.

8. Which of the following is supported by information in the two drawings?

   (1) In both societies, wealth can be determined by dwelling size.
   (2) Animals as well as people customarily live in both dwellings.
   (3) Plains Indian tepees and Bedouin tents have been in use for hundreds of years.
   (4) Both the Plains Indian tepee and the Bedouin tent are portable dwellings.
   (5) Both a Plains Indian tepee and a Bedouin tent are intended as single family dwellings.

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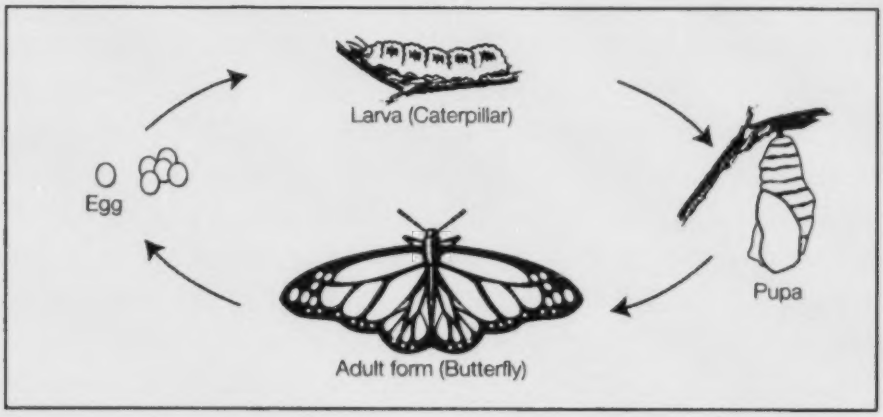
Questions 9 through 12 refer to the following paragraph and diagram of the life cycle of a butterfly.

In most animals, the adult is a larger version of the newly born animal. However, some animals, such as butterflies, undergo metamorphosis, or a complete change in form, during their life cycles.



9. According to the diagram, during which stage does the change from caterpillar to adult form take place?

   (1) egg
   (2) larva
   (3) pupa
   (4) butterfly
   (5) metamorphosis

10. Which of the following would be a good title for the diagram?

    (1) The Life Cycle of a Butterfly
    (2) Metamorphosis in Insects
    (3) Metamorphosis in Trees
    (4) From Caterpillar to Butterfly
    (5) Butterflies: Useful Insects

11. Based on information in the paragraph and the diagram, which of the following creatures also undergoes metamorphosis?

    (1) a koala, which grows in its mother's pouch
    (2) a hornet, which hatches from an egg
    (3) a sparrow, which builds its nest in a tree
    (4) a baby turtle, which looks like its parents but is smaller
    (5) a moth caterpillar, which spins a cocoon

12. A caterpillar crawls and eats leaves, and a butterfly flies and sucks nectar from flowers. What can you conclude from this fact?

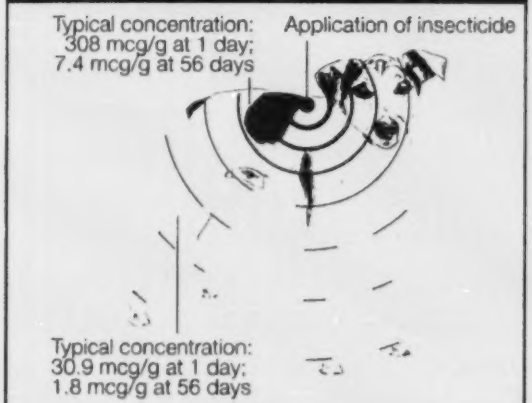
    (1) In general, leaves are easier to find than flowers for most species of insects.
    (2) Habitat destruction won't harm butterfly species as a whole as long as one stage survives.
    (3) There are more insect species than any other type of animal on earth.
    (4) Butterflies at different stages of the life cycle can live in one area without competing for food.
    (5) Nectar provides a lot of nourishment for the adult form of the species.

SCIENCE TEST • Life Science

Questions 13 and 14 refer to the following paragraph and diagram of a new pest treatment.

There are many ways to control fleas on pets, including flea collars, anti-flea pills, shampoos, and powders. In recent years, a remedy that has gained popularity is the spot treatment. A few drops of insecticide in a dog or cat's fur is enough to kill fleas for a month or more. How do these spot treatments work? The insecticide mixes with a pet's skin oils. Then the oils spread over the animal's body as a result of gravity and the animal's own movements. As shown in the diagram, even after 56 days, the concentration of insecticide in the fur at the pet's extremities is more than the 0.7mcg/g needed to kill fleas.

How Spot Treatment for Fleas Works



13. According to the diagram, where is the insecticide applied?

    (1) on the nose
    (2) on the throat
    (3) on the upper back
    (4) near the tail
    (5) on the belly

14. Pet owners like spot treatments because they are easy to apply and effective for many days. Which of the following products might be similarly successful?

    (1) ointment to soothe painful insect bites
    (2) long-term mosquito repellent
    (3) headache medication for sinus sufferers
    (4) solution for cleaning contact lenses
    (5) perfume for people with perfume allergies

Answers start on page 43.

SCOREBOOST EVALUATION AND STUDY PLAN

Check your answers. Fill in the results in the chart and make a study plan.

Questions	Strategy	Pages	Number Correct/Total
5, 6, 7, 8	Interpret Drawings	16–17	_____/4
9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	Figure Out Diagrams	18–19	_____/6
1, 2, 3, 4	Analyze Editorial Cartoons	20–21	_____/4
			Total _____/14

Results

- ☐ Seven or fewer correct • *Need to study more—make a plan.*
- ☐ Eight to twelve correct • *Need a quick review.*
- ☐ Thirteen to fourteen correct • *Ready to move on!*

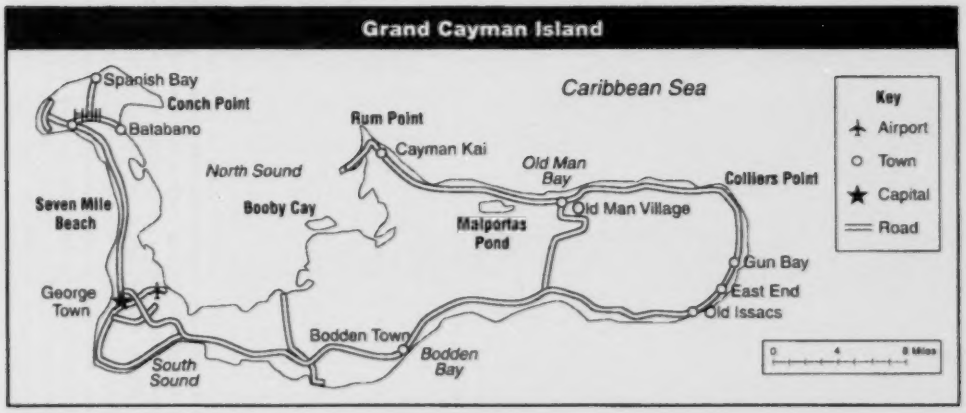
Plan—I need to work more on:

- ☐ Drawings
- ☐ Diagrams
- ☐ Cartoons

STRATEGY Read Map Formats

On both the Social Studies and Science Tests, you may be asked questions about maps. Most **maps** show portions of Earth's surface. To read and understand maps, you will need to preview titles. You will also need to check map **keys** (also called **legends**) and **distance scales,** if any.

SAMPLE GED MAP SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • Geography



PREVIEW QUESTIONS

What does the map show? _____

The title says it shows *Grand Cayman Island.*

How can you tell distances on the map? _____

By using the map scale, which *shows the equivalent of 8 miles on the island.*

What do the map symbols represent? _____

Based on the map key, *an airplane represents the airport, circles represent towns, and a star represents the capital city.*

GED Question

Which city, located on Grand Cayman, is the capital of the Cayman Islands?

(1) Spanish Bay
(2) Batabano
(3) Cayman Kai
(4) George Town
(5) Bodden Town

THINK: *The map key shows that the symbol for the capital is a star.* So you have to find the city on Grand Cayman that is marked with a star.

The city marked with a star, _____, is the capital.

George Town is the capital.

ANSWER: Choice (4)

TESTWISE ① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Carefully examine a map, asking yourself, *What does this map show? What symbols are used and what do they represent? What is the scale of the map?*

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Apply the Strategy

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • Geography

Questions 1 and 2 refer to this map of the Montreal subway system.

1. Which Metro line runs to Ile-Ste-Hélène in the St. Lawrence River?

   THINK: *Where is Ile-Ste-Hélène in the St. Lawrence River and according to the key, which Metro line goes there?*

   (1) the Orange Line
   (2) the Blue Line
   (3) the Green Line
   (4) the Yellow Line
   (5) the Red Line

2. At which station can you change from the Orange Line to the Green Line?

   THINK: *How are the Orange Line and Green Line represented and where do they intersect?*

   (1) at Berri-Ugam only
   (2) at either Berri-Ugam or Lionel-Groulx
   (3) at Snowdon only
   (4) at either Snowdon or Jean-Talon
   (5) at Champs-de-Mars only

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • U.S. History

Questions 3 through 5 refer to the following map of the United States in the 1790s.

3. Which three new states were admitted to the United States between 1791 and 1796?

   (1) New York, New Hampshire, and Tennessee
   (2) Tennessee, Kentucky, and Vermont
   (3) Vermont, New York, and North Carolina
   (4) North Carolina, Kentucky, and Virginia
   (5) Virginia, Delaware, and Pennsylvania

4. About how far is the eastern part of Kentucky from the Atlantic coast?

   (1) 100 miles
   (2) 350 miles
   (3) 500 miles
   (4) 700 miles
   (5) 900 miles

5. More new states joined the United States after 1796. Where would you expect most of them to be located?

   (1) north of the states shown on the map
   (2) south of the states shown on the map
   (3) east of the states shown on the map
   (4) west of the states shown on the map
   (5) southeast of the states shown on the map

Answers start on page 43.

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STRATEGY 10 Interpret Location and Direction on Maps

A map shows where places are in relation to one another. If the map has **latitude** and **longitude** lines, you can also tell a place's actual location. Maps show direction, too; a **compass rose** shows north, south, east, and west.

SAMPLE GED MAP SCIENCE TEST • Earth and Space Science

Each year the Mississippi and Atchafalaya Rivers dump tons of nitrogen into the Gulf of Mexico. This pollution creates an oxygen-starved area—a dead zone.

Source: "Shrinking the Dead Zone" by Sarah Simpson; *Scientific American*, July 2001.

PREVIEW QUESTIONS

What does the map show? _____

According to the labels, the map shows *the Dead Zone in the Gulf of Mexico.*

Latitude and longitude are measured in degrees (°). How are latitude and longitude shown on this map?

_____

Latitude and longitude are shown by *a grid marked with degrees north (°N) and degrees west (°W).*

GED Question

According to the map, where is New Orleans?

(1) south of the Gulf of Mexico
(2) west of the Atchafalaya River
(3) southeast of Venice
(4) in the state of Mississippi
(5) at approximately 30°N, 90°W

THINK: *How can you use the compass rose and latitude/longitude grid to find New Orleans's location?*

Choices (1), (2), and (3) are wrong: New Orleans is north of the Gulf of Mexico, east of the Atchafalaya River, and northwest of Venice.
Choice (4) is wrong: New Orleans is in Louisiana.
Choice (5) is correct: New Orleans is at 30°N, 90°W.

ANSWER: Choice (5)

TESTWISE ① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Carefully examine a map, asking yourself, *What does the map show? How are directions indicated? How are locations shown?*

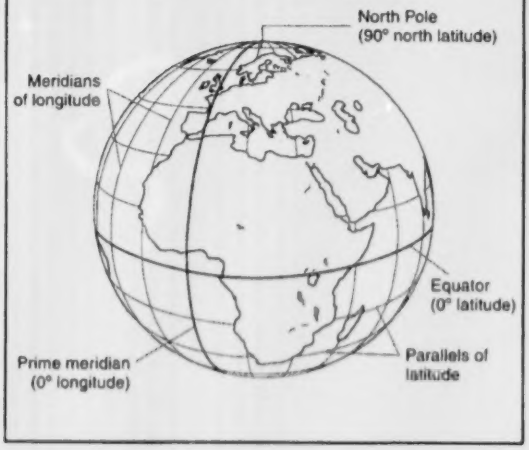
Apply the Strategy

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • Geography

Questions 1 and 2 are based on this paragraph and map showing latitude and longitude.

Latitude and longitude are grid lines covering the entire globe. By using latitude and longitude, you can find any spot on Earth.

Latitude and Longitude



1. At what latitude is the North Pole?

   THINK: *Where is the North Pole and how is its location indicated on the map?*

   (1) 0° latitude
   (2) 45° north latitude
   (3) 90° north latitude
   (4) 180° north latitude
   (5) at the prime meridian

2. To indicate the position of a spot in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, what information is necessary?

   THINK: *What do you need to know about a place that is in the middle of the Pacific Ocean to be able to describe its location most accurately?*

   (1) its latitude only
   (2) its longitude only
   (3) its latitude and longitude
   (4) its distance from the equator
   (5) its distance from the prime meridian

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • Geography

Questions 3 and 4 refer to this map of Korea.

The Korean Peninsula

3. Which city is on the west coast of the Korean peninsula?

   (1) Inchon
   (2) Panmunjom
   (3) Pusan
   (4) Pyongyang
   (5) Seoul

4. The border between North Korea and South Korea is sometimes called the 38th parallel. To what does this refer?

   (1) 38° north latitude
   (2) 38° south latitude
   (3) 38° east longitude
   (4) 38° west longitude
   (5) 38° south of China

Answers start on page 44.

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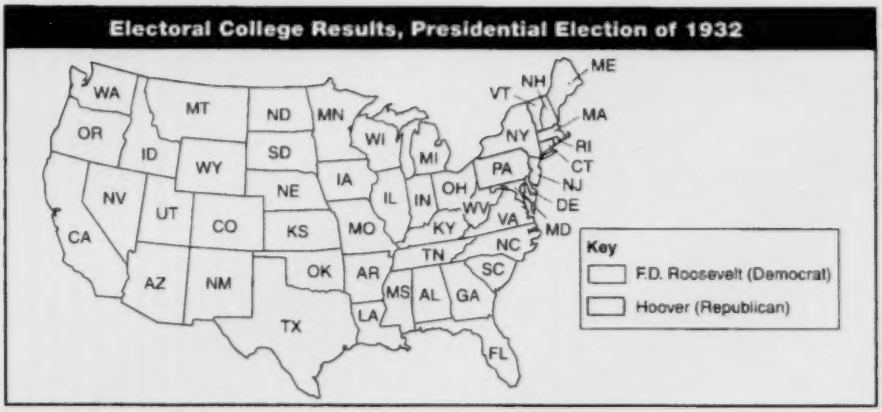
STRATEGY 11 Interpret Maps for Meaning

Maps can show political boundaries, physical features, population densities, election results, earthquake zones, and so on. The main idea of such maps is usually expressed in their titles. Remember to preview maps by reading the title and key.

SAMPLE GED MAP SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • U.S. History



PREVIEW QUESTIONS

What does the map show? _____

According to the title, the map *shows electoral college results for the presidential election of 1932.*

What do the map symbols represent? _____

Based on the map key, *shaded states cast their electoral votes for Hoover. The others cast their votes for F. D. Roosevelt.*

GED Question

Which of the following sets of states all cast electoral votes for the Republican candidate?

(1) New York, Vermont, Delaware, and Ohio
(2) Pennsylvania, Vermont, Ohio, and Maine
(3) Pennsylvania, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine
(4) New Hampshire, Maine, Arizona, and Utah
(5) Pennsylvania, Michigan, Utah, and Idaho

THINK: *The map key shows that the states that voted Republican are shaded.* Look for states that are shaded on the map.

States that voted Republican included _____.

States that voted Republican included *Pennsylvania, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine.*

ANSWER: Choice (3)

TESTWISE ① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Carefully preview maps, asking yourself,
What is the main idea of this map?
What symbols are used to represent information?

Apply the Strategy

SCIENCE TEST • Life Science

Questions 1 and 2 refer to this map of the range of the red wolf in North America.

1. In which part of North America was the red wolf's past range located?

   THINK: *Where in North America did red wolves once live?*

   (1) throughout the north
   (2) throughout the northeast
   (3) throughout the northwest
   (4) throughout the southeast
   (5) throughout the southwest

2. Which of the following conclusions is supported by the information in the map?

   THINK: *What details does the map show and what conclusion is supported by these details?*

   (1) The red wolf has been hunted almost to extinction.
   (2) The red wolf's range expanded into the northwest over time.
   (3) The red wolf's range has not changed much over time.
   (4) The red wolf's present range is much larger than its past range.
   (5) The red wolf's present range is much smaller than its past range.

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • Geography

Questions 3 and 4 refer to this map of South America.

3. What is the longest river in South America?

   (1) the Amazon
   (2) the Orinoco
   (3) the Parana
   (4) the Paraguay
   (5) the Uruguay

4. Which detail supports the conclusion that there is a geographic barrier between the west coast of South America and the rest of the continent?

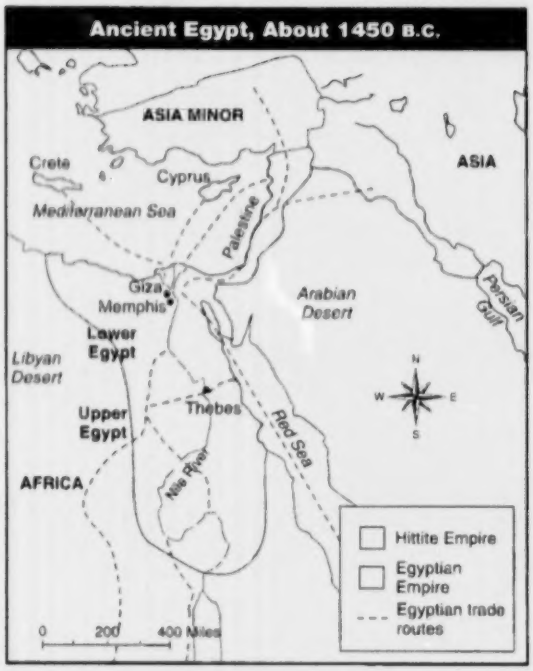
   (1) The Andes range runs along the Pacific coast.
   (2) Little rain falls in the Atacama Desert.
   (3) The Amazon River drains a large area.
   (4) The Paraguay River runs into the Parana.
   (5) The Strait of Magellan is a passage between the Atlantic and the Pacific.

Answers start on page 44.

GED Practice 3: Maps

Social Studies Test • World History

Questions 1 through 5 refer to the following map of the ancient Middle East.



1. Where is Thebes in relation to Memphis?

   (1) north of Memphis
   (2) east of Memphis
   (3) west of Memphis
   (4) northwest of Memphis
   (5) southeast of Memphis

2. A trader journeyed from Thebes to the coast of the Red Sea. Approximately how long was his trip?

   (1) 50 miles
   (2) 100 miles
   (3) 150 miles
   (4) 200 miles
   (5) 250 miles

3. Which of the following places would an overland traveler from Lower Egypt to the Hittite Empire have to pass through?

   (1) Upper Egypt
   (2) the Libyan Desert
   (3) Cyprus
   (4) Palestine
   (5) Crete

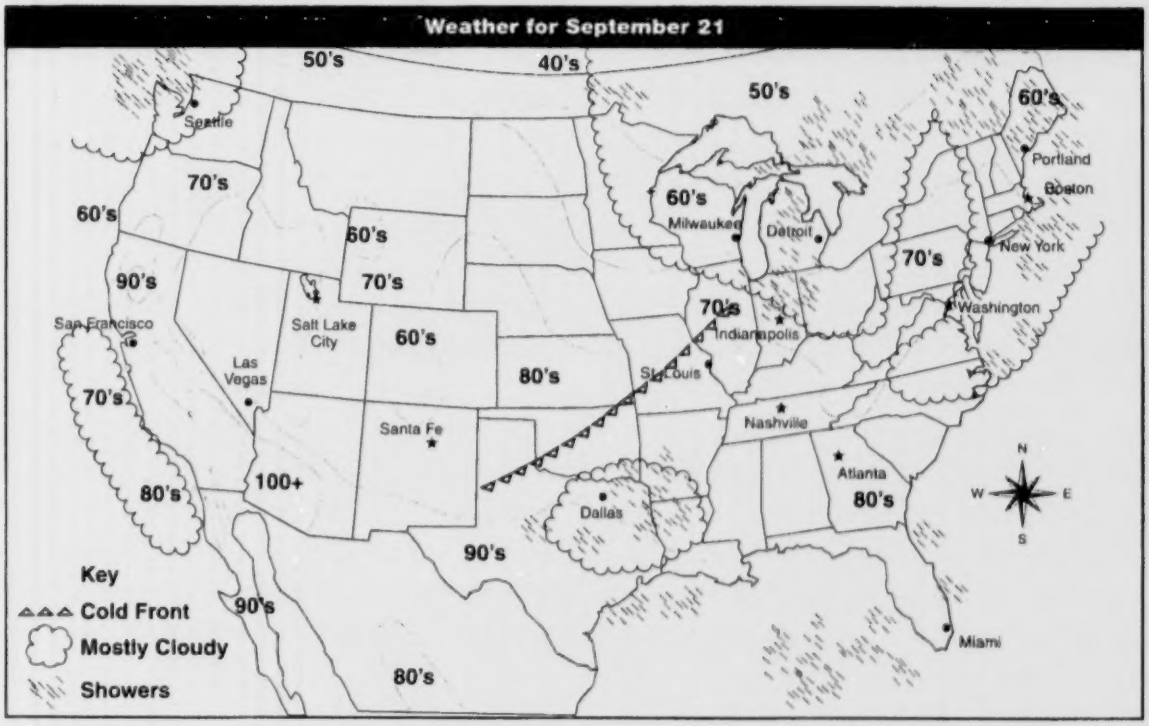
4. Which of the following details from the map provides evidence that the ancient Egyptians had seaworthy ships?

   (1) a long coastline on the Mediterranean Sea
   (2) a long coastline on the Red Sea
   (3) trade routes south into Africa's interior
   (4) trade routes to Crete and Cyprus
   (5) cities built along the Nile River

5. Which of the following geographical features was likely to have contributed the most to the extent of the Egyptian Empire?

   (1) Asia Minor
   (2) the Libyan Desert
   (3) the Arabian Desert
   (4) the Persian Gulf
   (5) the Nile River

Questions 6 through 9 refer to the following weather map.



6. Through which of the following cities is a cold front passing?

   (1) Seattle, Washington
   (2) Santa Fe, New Mexico
   (3) St. Louis, Missouri
   (4) Detroit, Michigan
   (5) Miami, Florida

7. What is the difference between conditions in Portland, Maine, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin?

   (1) Portland's high temperature is in the 60's; Milwaukee's is in the 80's.
   (2) Portland's high temperature is in the 60's; Milwaukee's is in the 70's.
   (3) It's raining in Portland and clear in Milwaukee.
   (4) It's cloudy in Portland and clear in Milwaukee.
   (5) It's raining in Portland and cloudy in Milwaukee.

8. Which part of the United States has temperatures higher than 100 degrees?

   (1) the northwest region
   (2) the north central region
   (3) the southwest region
   (4) the south central region
   (5) the southeast region

9. Which of the following additions to this map would make it more useful for most people?

   (1) the weather map for the same day last year
   (2) more specific temperature data
   (3) specific barometric pressure data
   (4) a paragraph telling the national forecast
   (5) a key including symbols for snow and ice

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Questions 10 through 13 refer to the following map of Southeast Asia.

10. If you were traveling from Vietnam to the Philippines, in which direction would you be going?

    (1) north
    (2) south
    (3) east
    (4) west
    (5) northwest

11. What city is located at approximately 6 degrees south latitude and 107 degrees east longitude?

    (1) Hanoi
    (2) Manila
    (3) Kuala Lumpur
    (4) Singapore
    (5) Jakarta

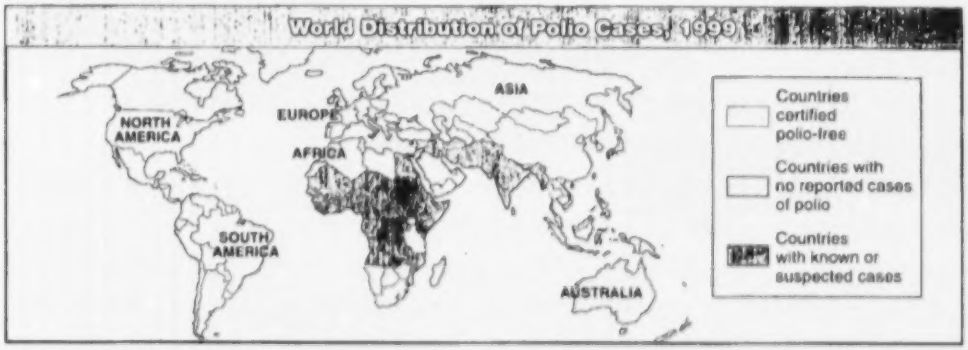
12. Regions along the equator generally have the hottest climates on Earth. Based on this information and the map, which country is most likely to have the hottest climate?

    (1) Indonesia
    (2) Vietnam
    (3) Laos
    (4) Myanmar
    (5) China

13. Which statement is supported by the information in the map?

    (1) All the nations of Southeast Asia are island nations.
    (2) The Pacific Ocean is deeper than the South China Sea.
    (3) China is north of the nations of Southeast Asia.
    (4) Rubber and coffee are two cash crops of Southeast Asia.
    (5) To get from Laos to Cambodia, you must pass through Thailand.

Questions 14 and 15 refer to the world map of polio distribution below.



Source: World Health Organization

14. On which continents do people still get polio?

(1) North America and South America
(2) South America and Europe
(3) Europe and Asia
(4) Asia and Africa
(5) Africa and Australia

15. Widespread immunization has wiped out polio in many places. A country is certified polio-free when there have been no new cases in three years. Based on this information and the map, which continents are most likely to be certified polio-free next?

(1) Australia and Europe
(2) Europe and Africa
(3) Africa and Australia
(4) Asia and Europe
(5) Asia and Australia

Answers start on page 44.

SCOREBOOST EVALUATION AND STUDY PLAN

Check your answers. Fill in the results in the chart and make a study plan.

Questions	Strategy	Pages	Number Correct/Total
2, 6, 7, 14	Read Map Formats	26–27	_____/4
1, 3, 8, 10, 11	Interpret Location and Direction	28–29	_____/5
4, 5, 9, 12, 13, 15	Interpret Maps for Meaning	30–31	_____/6
			Total _____/15

Results

- ☐ Seven or fewer correct • *Need to study more—make a plan.*
- ☐ Eight to twelve correct • *Need a quick review.*
- ☐ Thirteen to fifteen correct • *Ready to move on!*

Plan—I need to work more on:

- ☐ Map Formats
- ☐ Location and Direction
- ☐ The Meaning of Maps

Practice GED Test

SCIENCE TEST • Life Science

Questions 1 through 3 refer to this chart of herbal remedies.

Herb	Use	Caution
Echinacea	Colds and flu; urinary infections; skin wounds	Should not be used longer than 8 weeks or by people with autoimmune diseases
Feverfew	Migraine headaches	Dosage recommendation usually too high
Garlic	Active against viruses, fungi, and parasites; lowers cholesterol	Too much can cause heartburn and flatulence
Gingko	Improves short-term memory and concentration	Indigestion, headache, allergic skin reactions
Psyllium	As a laxative	Flatulence

1. Which of the following is the best title for this chart?

   (1) Herbal Remedies
   (2) Drawbacks of Selected Herbs
   (3) Herbal Remedies: Uses and Cautions
   (4) Herbal Remedies for Infections
   (5) Uses of Herbs

2. Based on the chart, if you had high cholesterol which herb would you take?

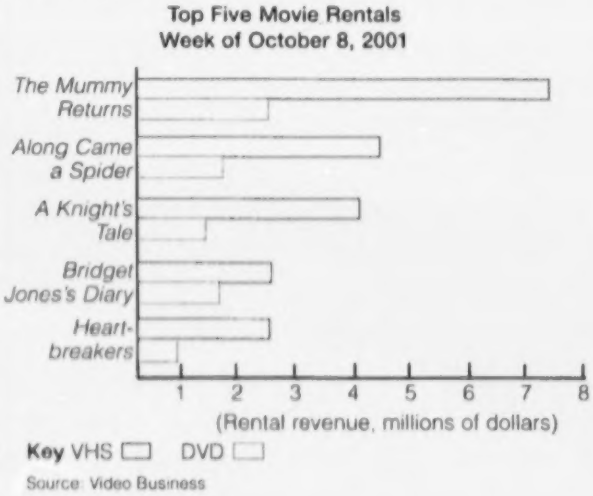
   (1) echinacea
   (2) feverfew
   (3) garlic
   (4) gingko
   (5) psyllium

3. Which of the following conclusions is supported by the information in the chart?

   (1) Herbal remedies work best at high doses.
   (2) Feverfew is the best herbal remedy for relieving high fever.
   (3) Psyllium helps improve short-term memory and heal wounds.
   (4) Some herbal remedies may be effective, but they should be used with caution.
   (5) Herbal remedies are not as effective as conventional drugs.

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • Economics

Questions 4 and 5 refer to this bar graph on movie rentals.



4. Approximately what was the total rental revenue for *The Mummy Returns*?

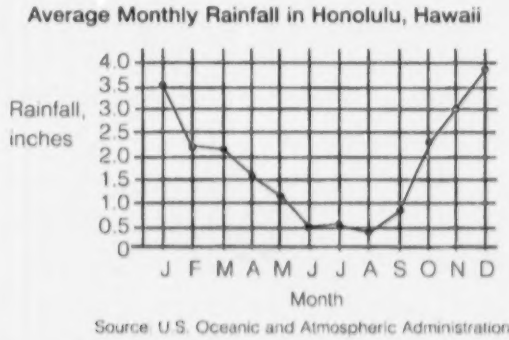
   (1) $10 million
   (2) $7.5 million
   (3) $5.5 million
   (4) $2.5 million
   (5) $1 million

5. How did rental revenue from VHS tapes compare with rental revenue from DVDs?

   (1) Rental revenue from VHS tapes was higher than that from DVDs for all five movies.
   (2) Rental revenue from VHS tapes was about the same as from DVDs for all five movies.
   (3) Rental revenue from VHS tapes was lower than that from DVDs for all five movies.
   (4) Rental revenue from VHS tapes was about the same as from DVDs for *A Knight's Tale* only.
   (5) Rental revenue from VHS tapes was higher than that from DVDs for *A Knight's Tale* only.

SCIENCE TEST • Earth and Space Science

Questions 6 and 7 refer to the following graph showing rainfall in Hawaii.



Source: U.S. Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

6. During which month does the most rain fall, on average, in Honolulu?

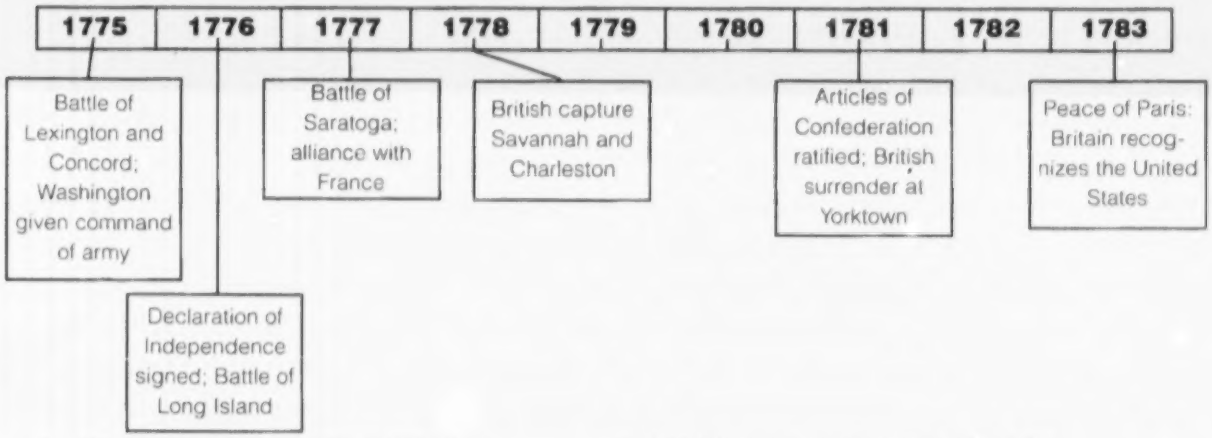
   (1) February
   (2) May
   (3) July
   (4) October
   (5) December

7. The Jacksons are planning a beach vacation in Honolulu. For the best weather, during which period of time should they go?

   (1) December through March
   (2) March through June
   (3) June through September
   (4) September through December
   (5) December or January only

SOCIAL STUDIES TEST • U.S. History

Questions 8 and 9 refer to the following time line of the American Revolution.



8. When did France begin to help the colonies?

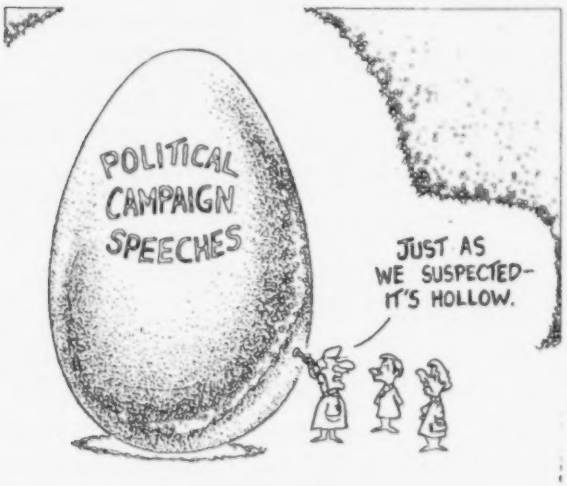
   (1) in 1775
   (2) in 1776
   (3) in 1777
   (4) in 1778
   (5) in 1781

9. Which event took place before the Declaration of Independence was signed?

   (1) The Treaty of Paris was signed.
   (2) The British captured Savannah.
   (3) The Battle of Saratoga occurred.
   (4) Washington was put in command.
   (5) The British surrendered at Yorktown.

Social Studies Test • Civics and Government

Questions 10 and 11 refer to the following editorial cartoon about campaign speeches.



Michael Osbun from the *Sumter County Times*

10. Which of the following expresses an opinion of the cartoonist rather than a fact?

    (1) Voters evaluate candidates in part by listening to their campaign speeches.
    (2) Promises made during political campaign speeches are false and unlikely to be carried out.
    (3) Brief portions of campaign speeches are presented to voters by the media.
    (4) Both campaign speeches and political ads are used to get a candidate's message to the voters.
    (5) Candidates often repeat the same speech wherever they campaign.

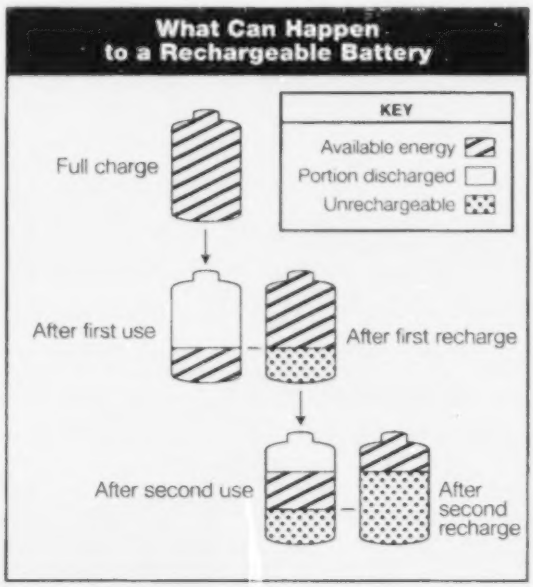
11. Which of the following is likely to be valued most by the cartoonist?

    (1) a political campaign that poses realistic solutions to serious problems
    (2) a political campaign that centers on attacking the other candidates
    (3) a political campaign with stylish leaflets and memorable quotes
    (4) a political campaign that concentrates on fund-raising
    (5) a political campaign that promises everything that voters want to hear

Science Test • Chemistry

Questions 12 and 13 refer to the following passage and diagram about rechargeable batteries.

When they are recharged before they are drained completely, rechargeable batteries suffer from the "memory effect." The memory effect can shorten battery life, as shown here.



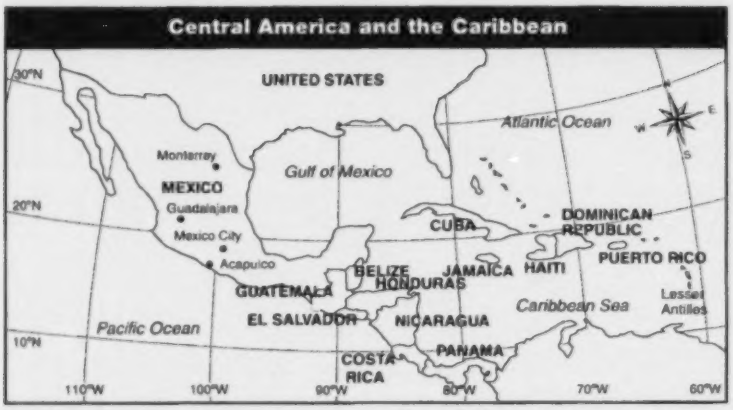
12. After it is recharged, what portion of a rechargeable battery's energy is available?

    (1) all of it
    (2) three-quarters
    (3) one-half
    (4) a portion equal to the previous discharge
    (5) a portion equal to the unrechargeable portion

13. Which of the following actions would restore the most energy to this type of battery?

    (1) Always recharge after a partial discharge.
    (2) Always recharge after use.
    (3) Recharge after discharging about half the battery.
    (4) Recharge after discharging about three-quarters of the battery.
    (5) Recharge after discharging the battery completely.

Questions 14 through 17 refer to this map of Central America and the Caribbean.



14. Which nation borders Nicaragua on the south?

(1) Panama
(2) Costa Rica
(3) Honduras
(4) El Salvador
(5) Guatemala

15. Which of the following places is located at 17°N latitude and 100°W longitude?

(1) the Dominican Republic
(2) Puerto Rico
(3) Acapulco
(4) Monterrey
(5) Guadalajara

16. What do Belize and El Salvador have in common?

(1) Both are islands.
(2) Both are landlocked.
(3) Both have only one coastline.
(4) Both are located north of Honduras.
(5) Both are larger than Mexico.

17. To travel overland from Nicaragua to El Salvador, through which nation must you go?

(1) Mexico
(2) Guatemala
(3) Belize
(4) Honduras
(5) Panama

Answers start on page 45.

SCOREBOOST EVALUATION AND STUDY PLAN

Check your answers. Fill in the results in the chart and make a study plan.

Questions	Graphic Skills	Pages	Number Correct/Total
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Interpret Charts and Graphs	2–11	_____/7
8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13	Interpret Drawings, Diagrams, and Cartoons	16–21	_____/6
14, 15, 16, 17	Interpret Maps	26–31	_____/4
			Total _____/17

Results

- ☐ Ten or fewer correct • *Need to study more—make a plan.*
- ☐ Eleven to fourteen correct • *Need a quick review.*
- ☐ Fifteen to seventeen correct • *Graphic skills mastered!*

Plan—I need to work more on:

- ☐ Charts and Graphs
- ☐ Drawings, Diagrams, Cartoons
- ☐ Maps

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Answers and Explanations

STRATEGY 1 INTERPRET CHARTS AND TABLES, page 3

1. **(3) The truth about dolphin behavior often contradicts people's ideas about dolphins. (Comprehension)** Both the passage and the chart focus on the contrast between people's pleasant myths about dolphins and the harsher reality of dolphin behavior.
2. **(4) to protect themselves (Analysis)** When an animal's space is invaded by another species, which is what happens when people swim with wild dolphins, the animal is likely to protect itself and its territory from the invaders.
3. **(3) Opening Times of Polls (Comprehension)** This is the best title because it tells you exactly what information you will find in the table.
4. **(5) 8 A.M. to 9 P.M. (Synthesis)** The introductory paragraph states that all polls close at 9 P.M. On that basis you can eliminate Choices (1), (3), and (4). The table tells you that the Middletown polls usually open at 8 A.M. When there is a presidential election they open at 7 A.M., but the election referred to in the question is a primary, not a presidential election.

STRATEGY 2 WORK WITH PICTOGRAPHS, page 5

1. **(4) 600 (Comprehension)** First look for the row for 1943. Then count the number of ship symbols—there are three. Since each ship symbol represents 200 ships, approximately 600 ships were lost that year (3 × 200 = 600).
2. **(3) 1942 (Comprehension)** First look for the row with the most ship symbols—that means the most ships going down. The row with the most ship symbols represents losses in 1942.
3. **(3) Shipping losses first rose and then fell sharply during the war. (Comprehension)** The number of ships sunk increased until they reached a high in 1942; then the number decreased.
4. **(3) one-quarter of it (Comprehension)** Look for the row that shows 11,460 years have passed. The shaded portion of the next column represents the amount of carbon-14 left. In this case, one-quarter is shaded, so that is the correct answer.
5. **(2) 5,730 years ago (Comprehension)** To answer this question, look in the column entitled "Amount of Carbon-14 Remaining" for the box that is one-half shaded. The half shaded box is in the row marked "5,730 (years passed)," so that is the correct answer.
6. **(1) The remains of living things can be dated by the amount of carbon-14 they contain. (Comprehension)** This sentence expresses the central idea of the paragraph and the pictograph. The remaining choices are all specific details that support the main idea.

STRATEGY 3 USE BAR GRAPHS TO MAKE COMPARISONS, page 7

1. **(4) 2.5 g/cm^3 (Comprehension)** Look on the vertical axis for flint; it's the third item from the top. Then check the length of its bar against the densities listed along the horizontal axis at the bottom of the graph. The density of flint is about 2.5 g/cm^3.
2. **(3) glass (Synthesis)** According to the passage, substances with densities less than that of water, which is 1.0, float in water. In the graph, all the items listed, with the exception of glass, have densities less than 1.0, and therefore they float in water. Glass, with a density greater than that of water, is the only choice that, when placed in water, will sink.
3. **(2) 55% (Comprehension)** To answer this question correctly, you must first find the data set that represents the post–World Trade Center questioning—that's the bottom group of bars. Then look at the key to see which of the three bars represents a "yes" answer to the question. It's the black bar, marked 55%.
4. **(5) The percentage of people willing to give up civil liberties was higher in 2001 than in 1997. (Evaluation)** The question asks for facts that support the conclusion that people become more willing to give up civil liberties when terrorist attacks occur in the United States. A supporting fact would compare the poll answers at different times, when there were no terrorist attacks and when there were terrorist attacks and show that the percentage of people willing to give up civil liberties is higher when terrorist attacks have recently occurred here than when terrorist attacks have not recently occurred. Choice (5) is correct. Since 1997 was a year of no terrorist attacks, this is a good year to compare with 2001, the year of the World Trade Center attack; and the number of people willing to give up civil liberties was higher in 2001 than in 1997. Choices (1), (2), and (3) do not relate clearly to the conclusion. Choice (4) compares poll answers in two years in which there was terrorism, so this fact cannot be used to support the conclusion.

STRATEGY 4 SEE TRENDS IN LINE GRAPHS, page 9

1. **(1) 500,000 (Comprehension)** First look for the line that represents people born in Asia. Then locate 1960 on the horizontal (bottom) axis. You can see that about half a million, or 500,000, people in the U.S. in 1960 had been born in Asia.
2. **(3) In 1990, the number of U.S. residents born in Europe was similar to the number of U.S. residents born in Asia. (Evaluation)** The line graphs for both European-born and Asian-born U.S. residents cross just before 1990, and in 1990 the numbers for both graphs cluster near 4.5 million. Choices (1), (2), and (4) are contradicted by information on the graph. Note that choice (5) is incorrect because the graph includes no data on political refugees.
3. **(3) About the same number of kilowatt-hours were used in January 2002 as in January 2001. (Synthesis)** If you look at the two dots that represent kilowatt-hours in January 2001 and January 2002, you will see that they each show that between 600 and 700 kilowatt- hours were used.

4. **(2) turning off air conditioners in the summer (Application)** If you look at the trend shown by this line graph, you will see that the use of electricity goes up sharply in the summer months. Cutting those high summer electricity bills would mean saving a lot of money. Thus the family could cut down on their use of the electric appliance that gets its heaviest use in the summertime—the air conditioner.

STRATEGY 5 RELATE PARTS OF A WHOLE IN CIRCLE GRAPHS, page 11

1. **(2) operating expenses (Comprehension)** Look for the portion of the graph that represents about one-quarter of the whole circle. It is the portion representing operating expenses. If you don't have a good eye for estimating fractions, you can also figure out the correct answer by doing arithmetic. Add up all the expenses ($886 + $496 + $418 + $281 = $2,081). Then divide the total by 4 to get one-quarter ($2,081 ÷ 4 = $520 remainder 1). The expense closest to $520 is $496, operating expenses.
2. **(5) $281,000,000 (Comprehension)** The label for debt payments says the expense was $281. The title of the graph tells you that the amounts are shown in millions of dollars. Therefore $281 × 1,000,000 = $281,000,000 is the correct answer.
3. **(1) Paying county workers is the largest expense. (Evaluation)** This statement is true because the county paid $886,000,000 for salaries and benefits for its workers, the largest category of expense on the graph. Choice (2) is incorrect because the county's debt payment is smaller than the expense of public assistance programs and the other categories of expenses. Choices (3), (4), and (5) cannot be confirmed with the data in the graph.
4. **(5) 2.5% (Comprehension)** First locate the graph that shows the metal composition of pennies—the one on the left. Then look for the percentage of copper in a penny—2.5%.
5. **(2) Pennies contain zinc, but nickels don't. (Synthesis)** The graphs show that pennies have zinc and copper, and nickels have copper and nickel; so of the two coins, only pennies contain zinc.
6. **(1) the small amount of copper in each penny (Synthesis)** All of the zinc that forms the bulk of a penny is hidden from view, because the penny is copper plated. That is why a penny can contain so little copper but still look as if it is made of copper; the copper is all in a thin surface layer.

GED PRACTICE 1: CHARTS AND GRAPHS, pages 12–15

1. **(3) 63.9% (Comprehension)** To find the correct answer, look in the "Conditions" column for the row marked "Cord prolapse." Then read across the row to the "Percent" column to find the answer—63.9%.
2. **(4) Both involve problems with the placenta. (Synthesis)** To figure out the correct answer, you must compare the descriptions of placenta previa and abruptio placentae in the "What Happens" column. Both conditions involve the placenta: in one case, the placenta is blocking the birth canal, and in the other case, the placenta comes loose from the uterine wall before it should. Choices (1) and (2) are incorrect, because nothing in these descriptions indicates that these problems occur before labor or that they necessarily damage the mother. Choice (3) is related to breech presentation, not to placenta previa or abruptio placentae. Choice (5) is incorrect because only placenta previa involves a blockage of the birth canal.
3. **(5) the baby's welfare (Evaluation)** Most doctors are not willing to take the chance that the monitor is wrong in indicating the baby's distress. If they do nothing and it turns out the monitor was correctly indicating problems, they place the baby at risk. Although obstetricians are likely to value all of the other choices, most would put the baby's welfare above the others.
4. **(5) 41 million (Comprehension)** First find the row that represents voters aged 25 to 44, and then count the number of symbols in that row—there are 20.5 symbols. The key indicates that each symbol represents 2 million voters, so the correct answer is 20.5 × 2 million, or 41 million voters.
5. **(3) 109 million (Synthesis)** To find the correct answer, you must first count all of the symbols for all groups of voters—there are 54 1/2 symbols. Since each symbol represents 2 million voters, multiply 54 1/2 by 2 million, and you get 109 million voters.
6. **(2) In 1996, fewer 18 to 20 year olds voted than any other age group. (Evaluation)** The pictograph shows that only about 3.5 million voters were between the ages of 18 and 20. Choices (1), (4), and (5) are contradicted by the data in the pictograph. Choice (3) is wrong because the graph does not include information about how people voted.
7. **(4) Between 1990 and 2000, unemployment fell in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, and rose in Germany and Japan. (Comprehension)** This statement is the best choice because it covers all the main points of the graph. Choices (1), (2), and (3) focus on specific points made by the graph, but they do not give a good overview, or summary, of the whole graph. Choice (5) is incorrect.
8. **(5) an economist studying international labor trends (Application)** The data in this graph is very general—national unemployment figures for five nations. It's not likely to be useful to the people listed in choices (1) through (4) because their concerns are more local.
9. **(3) 8 billion (Comprehension)** First locate the year 2030 along the horizontal axis. Then look upward to find the point representing the population that year. Read across to the left, vertical axis and find the population figure. It's about 8 billion.
10. **(4) 40 years (Synthesis)** First locate the point referred to in the question—the population in 1960, which was 3 billion. Then move up along the trend line until you get to the point that represents a doubling of that population figure—6 billion. Look down to the horizontal axis to see what year the population reached about 6 billion—it was 2000. The number of years between

2000 and 1960 is 40 years, so it took 40 years for the 1960 population figure to double.

11. **(2) The part of the graph showing 1950–2000 would stay the same; the part of the graph showing 2000–2050 would be less steep. (Analysis)** The new prediction would not affect the population figures for 1950 to 2000, so that portion of the line graph would remain the same. If the population were to grow more slowly from 2000 to 2050, then the line graph would become less steep because the population figures would be lower than those projected on the current graph.
12. **(2) About twice as much is absorbed as is reflected. (Synthesis)** The two parts of the graph representing the absorption of energy add up to 66%. The two parts representing the reflection of energy add up to 34%. Therefore about twice as much energy is absorbed as is reflected.
13. **(3) The heat in the ground would warm the house. (Application)** Since almost half of the sun's energy is absorbed by the ground, the ground holds a great deal of heat, more than the atmosphere. Therefore an underground house would be partially heated by the ground and would need less fuel for heating than an aboveground house in the same area.

Strategy 6 Interpret Drawings, page 17

1. **(4) an air space (Comprehension)** Look at the diagram and find the outer shell. Then look to see what is directly under the outer shell. According to the labels, it is the air space between the outer shell and the walls of the inner container.
2. **(1) More heat would pass through the opening. (Analysis)** First locate the plug at the top of the flask. The plug helps keep heat from entering or leaving the flask, so when it is removed, more heat will pass through the opening of the flask. Removing the plug does not affect any of the parts mentioned in choices (2) through (5).
3. **(2) the underground shaft that holds the missile (Comprehension)** According to the label on the diagram, the silo is the shaft that encloses the missile underground.
4. **(4) The cover is opened when the missile is to be launched. (Comprehension)** The purpose of the sliding cover is to cover the missile when it is not being used and to uncover it when it is being used. Therefore choices (1) and (2) can be eliminated because the cover does not remain permanently in one position. Choice (3) is wrong because the diagram shows a separate entrance to the missile service areas. Choice (5) may be true, but nothing in the diagram suggests it, so it is not a correct choice.

Strategy 7 Figure Out Diagrams, page 19

1. **(3) the invention of the cotton gin (Comprehension)** First locate the completion of the Erie Canal on the time line—it occurred in 1825. Then look for events to the left—before 1825. The only event among the choices that occurred before 1825 is the invention of the cotton gin, which took place in 1793.
2. **(2) The Industrial Revolution involved advances in technology as well as transportation. (Analysis)** The events on the time line involve advances in technology, such as all of the inventions, and advances in transportation, such as the opening of the Erie Canal, the building of the B&O Railroad, and the clipper ship's record-breaking trip. Therefore it is reasonable to conclude that both types of advances contributed to the Industrial Revolution. Choice (1) is incorrect because the time line gives no information that would allow you to assess the relative importance of the reaper. Choice (3) is incorrect because no advances in air transportation occurred during the period shown on the time line. Choice (4) is incorrect because the time line does not imply that there is any relationship between the Erie Canal, an inland waterway, and shipping along ocean routes. Choice (5) is incorrect because although the B&O Railroad was one of the first opened, the time line does not extend throughout the whole century, when other railroads opened. Thus it's impossible to draw any conclusions about the relative importance of that railroad during the century as a whole.
3. **(4) in the lower edge of the eardrum (Comprehension)** The arrow extending from the ear tube to the ear shows that the tube is inserted in the lower edge of the eardrum.
4. **(5) Ear Tubes: A Remedy for Ear Infections (Comprehension)** The passage discusses ear infections, and the diagram shows one treatment for ear infections. Therefore this is a good title for both the passage and the diagram. Choices (1) and (4) are incorrect because there is nothing about what causes or heals ear infections. Choice (2) is too narrow to be a good title for both the passage and the diagram. Choice (3) is incorrect because how ear tubes work is not explained.

Strategy 8 Analyze Editorial Cartoons, page 21

1. **(1) a scientist (Comprehension)** The man in the cartoon is a scientist. You can tell by his white lab coat and by the fact that he is presenting information about the human genome.
2. **(2) human genetic material from a cell (Comprehension)** In the top panel, the diagram is labeled "Human Genome Map." According to the paragraph, the human genome consists of the sequence of all the genetic material in a human cell.
3. **(4) Scientists are excited about learning how the human body works from the human genome map. (Comprehension)** The scientist is depicted as happy and excited; the human genome is compared to the Book of Life, so it clearly contains valuable knowledge about how the human body works.
4. **(3) The issues raised by knowledge of the human genome are troublesome. (Comprehension)** The bottom panel shows the flip side to the mapping of the human genome—all the difficult moral and ethical issues that will arise from the potential uses to which we put this information in genetic testing, genetic ther-

apies, and so on. The scientist is shown as small and unsure in the face of these issues.

5. **(2) knowledge (Evaluation)** Scientists value the knowledge that their work results in, as shown clearly in the top panel. According to the cartoonist, moral and ethical issues are secondary to most scientists; the cartoonist places them in the second panel—almost as a second thought or a delayed reaction.

GED Practice 2: Cartoons, Drawings, and Diagrams, pages 22–25

1. **(4) a potential voter (Comprehension)** The man's question indicates that he is considering whether or not to vote. Hence, he is a potential voter. None of the other choices make sense considering the man's question.
2. **(5) If everyone in Florida had voted, there might not have been such a close race. (Analysis)** Of the five statements, only this one is an opinion, or a belief, of the cartoonist. The remaining statements are all facts—they can be proved true.
3. **(1) "My vote won't count anyway." (Synthesis)** The fact that some Florida ballots had to be set aside and not counted gives the man in the cartoon another excuse for not voting. Not only is his vote not likely to "count" because one candidate will probably get many more votes than the other, but if he does vote it may not count anyway, given the poor design of some of the ballots.
4. **(3) the right to vote (Evaluation)** The closeness of the year 2000 presidential race in Florida showed that one vote can make a difference. This surprising event made many people, voters and nonvoters alike, realize how important voting can be.
5. **(4) to hold the tent in place (Comprehension)** The drawing shows the ropes extending from the covering and poles to pegs in the sand. Thus the ropes prevent the tent from blowing away or collapsing.
6. **(2) Put up the wooden frame poles. (Analysis)** The frame of the tepee should be put up first, so that means erecting the wooden frame poles. The steps in choices (1), (4), and (5) could not be done until the frame was up. Choice (3) would be done when you are taking the tepee down, not putting it up.
7. **(1) Both have coverings made from animal products. (Synthesis)** If you examine both drawings, you will see that the tepee has a covering made of animal hides, and the Bedouin tent has a covering made of woven goat hair.
8. **(4) Both the Plains Indian tepee and the Bedouin tent are portable dwellings. (Evaluation)** Both structures are designed to be easily put up, taken down, and transported. Portable dwellings like these are used by nomadic people, who move from place to place with all their belongings. The drawings do not have information that supports any of the other choices.
9. **(3) pupa (Comprehension)** During the pupa stage, the caterpillar is transformed into the adult form, the butterfly. With choices (1), (2), and (4), other changes are occurring. Choice (5) is incorrect because *metamorphosis* is the scientific term for the type of life-cycle changes that a butterfly undergoes, not a stage in the life cycle.
10. **(1) The Life Cycle of a Butterfly (Comprehension)** This title accurately describes the diagram. Choice (2) is too general. Choice (3) is incorrect because trees are not specifically shown. Choice (4) describes only part of what is shown; it omits the egg stage. Choice (5) is incorrect because the usefulness of butterflies is not the subject of the diagram.
11. **(5) a moth caterpillar, which spins a cocoon (Application)** The moth caterpillar is the only choice in which one of the life-cycle stages similar to that of a butterfly is described. Choices (1), (2), and (3) are incorrect because growing in a pouch, hatching from an egg, or building a nest in a tree to do not, by themselves, signify stages in metamorphosis. Choice (4) is incorrect because, as the paragraph states, animals that undergo metamorphosis do not look like their parents until they reach adulthood.
12. **(4) Butterflies at different stages of the life cycle can live in one area without competing for places to live and food. (Synthesis)** The fact that the larva stage (caterpillar) and adult stage (butterfly) are so different gives butterflies two niches in an area—two niches in which they do not compete with each other for the same resources. Note that choice (2) is incorrect because if one stage is destroyed, the total number of the species must decrease, because fewer survive to lay eggs.
13. **(3) on the upper back (Comprehension)** The diagram shows that the insecticide is applied to the dog's upper back.
14. **(2) long-term mosquito repellent (Application)** An easy-to-apply long-term insecticide for mosquitoes might be successful because it is more convenient than a repellent you have to apply frequently. The remaining choices do not have all the key characteristics: externally applied substance with long-term benefit that extends over days.

Strategy 9 Read Map Formats, page 27

1. **(4) the Yellow Line (Comprehension)** First locate the St. Lawrence River and Ile-Ste-Hélène on the map. Then look at the Metro line that stops there. Match the Metro line to the similar one in the map legend. It is the Yellow Line.
2. **(2) at either Berri-Ugam or Lionel-Groulx (Comprehension)** First look at the legend to see how the Orange Line and the Green Line are shown on the map. Then find those two lines on the map. Look for any points of intersection—there are two, Berri-Ugam and Lionel-Groulx.
3. **(2) Tennessee, Kentucky, and Vermont (Comprehension)** According to the map key, new states are shaded. Look on the map for the shaded states. They are Tennessee, Kentucky, and Vermont.
4. **(2) 350 miles (Comprehension)** The best way to figure out distance on this map is to lay the edge of a piece

of scrap paper in a line from Kentucky's eastern border (closest to the ocean) to the Atlantic shore. Mark each point with a tic mark. Then lay the scrap paper against the scale of miles on the lower right-hand side of the map. You'll see immediately that the distance between the tic marks is more than 200 miles, the length represented by the scale. Figure out how much more—about three-quarters of the length of the scale, or another 150 miles. Therefore 350 miles is the best answer.

5. **(4) west of the states shown on the map (Analysis)** The map shows that the first states of the United States hugged the east coast of the continent. Additional states were formed in the areas west of these early states.

Strategy 10 Interpret Location and Direction, page 29

1. **(3) 90° north latitude (Comprehension)** First locate the North Pole on the map. The label indicates that the North Pole is located at 90° north latitude. Note that latitude is always expressed as north or south, except for the equator, which is at 0°.
2. **(3) its latitude and longitude (Evaluation)** Any spot on Earth can be located as the intersection of a parallel of latitude and a meridian of longitude. Knowing only the latitude or only the longitude does not locate a spot on the globe, because parallels and meridians are each lines, not points.
3. **(1) Inchon (Comprehension)** To identify the west coast of the Korean peninsula, check the compass rose. West is to the left. Then look along the west coast for any cities. The only city on the west coast is Inchon. The only other coastal city on the map, Pusan, is on the southeast coast.
4. **(1) 38° north latitude (Comprehension)** If you look at the map closely, you will see that it has a latitude/longitude grid and that the parallels of latitude are marked. The border between North Korea and South Korea is near the 38th parallel, which the map indicates is 38° north latitude.

Strategy 11 Interpret Maps for Meaning, page 31

1. **(4) throughout the southeast (Comprehension)** Check the compass rose for direction. The area of North America that used to be inhabited by red wolves is the entire southeast region.
2. **(5) The red wolf's present range is much smaller than its past range. (Evaluation)** If you look at the map, you will see that today red wolves are found in a very small area compared to where they were found in the past. Choice (1) is incorrect because the map does not indicate any causes of the decreasing range. Choices (2), (3), and (4) are contradicted by the information on the map.
3. **(1) the Amazon (Comprehension)** Just by looking at the map you can see that the Amazon is the longest river in South America. The other rivers listed as choices are shorter.
4. **(1) The Andes range runs along the Pacific coast. (Evaluation)** The map shows that the Andes mountain range extends along the length of South America near the Pacific coast. These mountains form a geographic barrier between the west coast and the rest of the continent. Choices (2) through (5) are all factual details, but they do not support the conclusion.

GED Practice 3: Maps, pages 32–35

1. **(5) southeast of Memphis (Comprehension)** First locate Memphis and Thebes on the map (they are both cities on the Nile River). Then check the compass rose for direction. Thebes is southeast of Memphis.
2. **(2) 100 miles (Comprehension)** Use a piece of paper to mark off the distance between Thebes and the Red Sea. Then lay the paper along the map scale to see how many miles it is. The distance is about halfway between 0 miles and 200 miles, or approximately 100 miles.
3. **(4) Palestine (Analysis)** First find Lower Egypt and the Hittite Empire on the map. Then trace an overland route. To travel from Egypt to the Hittite Empire by land meant going through Palestine.
4. **(4) trade routes to Crete and Cyprus (Evaluation)** To trade goods with Crete and Cyprus—both islands in the Mediterranean—the Egyptians needed to be able to travel by ship; moreover, these ships had to be capable of traveling hundreds of miles on open water. The fact that this trade did occur means that the Egyptians had seaworthy ships. Choices (1) and (2), long coastlines, do not necessarily mean that the ancient Egyptians had ventured out onto the sea. Choice (3) doesn't make sense because trade routes into Africa's interior would be overland. Choice (5) does not relate to whether the Egyptians had seaworthy ships.
5. **(5) the Nile River (Analysis)** The area covered by the Egyptian Empire includes the area surrounding the Nile River. The course of the river was the greatest influence on the extent of Egypt's empire. Note that choice (2), the Libyan Desert, may have limited Egypt's westward growth, but it is not the main geographic influence on the empire.
6. **(3) St. Louis, Missouri (Comprehension)** Look on the map key to see how cold fronts are represented. Then identify any cold fronts on the map and look along them to find cities located on the fronts. St. Louis is the only city listed that is located along a cold front.
7. **(5) It's raining in Portland and cloudy in Milwaukee. (Synthesis)** The map gives temperature and precipitation information, so there are two items to compare. First, the temperature in Portland is in the 60's, and so is the temperature in Milwaukee. Therefore, any difference between them must be in the precipitation. The map shows that there are rain showers in Portland. It also shows that Milwaukee is in an area that is mostly cloudy. Therefore that is the main difference in conditions between the two cities: it's raining in Portland and cloudy in Milwaukee.

8. **(3) the southwest region (Comprehension)** First look for the area that has temperatures over 100 degrees. That's in the bottom left side of the country. Now look for the directions on the compass rose. That part of the country is located between south and west, or southwest.
9. **(4) a paragraph telling the national forecast (Application)** To interpret the weather map and figure out what tomorrow's weather might be like, a written forecast would be generally helpful. Choices (1), (2), and (3) are all technical weather or map data of limited general interest. Choice (5) would not be useful, since temperatures for the entire country are above freezing.
10. **(3) east (Comprehension)** First locate Vietnam and the Philippines on the map. Then find the compass rose for the directions. You will see that the Philippines are east of Vietnam.
11. **(5) Jakarta (Comprehension)** To answer this question, use the latitude/longitude grid. First look for 7 degrees south latitude. It is partway between 0 degrees latitude and 10 degrees south latitude. Then look along that imaginary line until you reach approximately 107 degrees east longitude, between the lines representing 100 degrees east and 110 degrees east. The city at that intersection of latitude and longitude is Jakarta. In fact, this question can be answered on the basis of latitude alone, since Jakarta is the only city south of the equator (0 degrees) on this map.
12. **(1) Indonesia (Synthesis)** The hottest country is probably along the equator (0 degrees latitude). Of all the choices, the only country on the equator is Indonesia.
13. **(3) China is north of the nations of Southeast Asia. (Evaluation)** According to the compass rose and the latitude lines, China is the nation furthest north on this map. Choices (1) and (5) are contradicted by the map. Choice (2) is incorrect because the map has no data about ocean depth. Choice (4) is incorrect because there is no agricultural products data on this map.
14. **(4) Asia and Africa (Comprehension)** Look at the map key to see how countries with polio are represented. All the nations with polio are located either in Asia or in Africa.
15. **(1) Australia and Europe (Synthesis)** The areas that are likely next to be certified polio-free are those that have no reported polio cases now. Look at the map key to see how these countries are represented—by gray shading. Then look at the continents to see which ones are entirely shaded in gray. They are Australia and Europe.

PRACTICE GED TEST, pages 36–39

1. **(3) Herbal Remedies: Uses and Cautions (Comprehension)** This title covers the topic of the chart. Choices (1) and (5) are too general. Choice (2) is too specific. Choice (4) is incorrect because many of the uses do not involve treating infections.
2. **(3) garlic (Comprehension)** Look in the use column for information about cholesterol. The only mention of cholesterol is in the row that has information about garlic; according to the chart, garlic can be used to help lower cholesterol.
3. **(4) Some herbal remedies may be effective, but they should be used with caution. (Evaluation)** The chart describes some effective herbal remedies but also gives warning about their use. Choice (1) is not supported by the data in the table; in fact, feverfew is often taken at too high a dose. Choice (2) is incorrect because the chart neither lists nor compares treatments for lowering high fever. Choice (3) is contradicted by the information about psyllium. Choice (5) is incorrect because there is no information at all about conventional drugs.
4. **(1) $10 million (Comprehension)** To get total revenue, you must add VHS rental revenue and DVD rental revenue for *The Mummy Returns*. VHS rentals are about $7.5 million, and DVD rentals are about $2.5 million, for a total of $10 million.
5. **(1) Rental revenue from VHS tapes was higher than that from DVDs for all five movies. (Synthesis)** If you compare the lengths of the bars, you will see that for each movie, the bar representing VHS rentals is longer than the bar representing DVD rentals. Therefore VHS rental revenues were higher for all of the movies shown.
6. **(5) December (Comprehension)** Look for the point representing the highest number of inches of rainfall. That point is almost 4 inches. Then look down to the horizontal axis to see which month that much rain falls—it is December.
7. **(3) June through September (Application)** Since a beach vacation is spoiled by lots of rain, the Jacksons should plan their vacation for a time when average rainfall is low. According to the graph, that occurs during the summer months, when less than one inch of rain falls per month.
8. **(3) in 1777 (Comprehension)** According to the time line, the alliance between France and the American colonies was formed in 1777.
9. **(4) Washington was put in command. (Analysis)** According to the time line, the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776. Of all of the events listed, only Washington's appointment as commander of the army took place before 1776; it happened in 1775.
10. **(2) Promises made during political campaign speeches are false and unlikely to be carried out. (Analysis)** A hollow speech or promise is one that is false. That political campaign speeches are hollow is the cartoonist's opinion. All of the other choices are facts about campaigns, which can be proved true.
11. **(1) a political campaign that poses realistic solutions to serious problems (Evaluation)** It is clear from the cartoon that the cartoonist disapproves of "hollow" speeches—those which ring false, often by promising unrealistic things. Therefore he is most likely to value a political campaign that poses realistic solutions to serious problems, rather than one that promises anything voters want to hear.
12. **(4) a portion equal to the previous discharge (Synthesis)** The diagram shows that after the first recharge, the amount of available energy is equal to the amount that had been discharged before the

recharge. Similarly, after the second recharge, the amount of available energy is equal to the amount that had been discharged before the second recharge.

13. **(5) Recharge after discharging the battery completely. (Analysis)** Since the amount of available energy after a recharge is equal to the amount that had been discharged, it follows that if you discharge all the energy in the battery, your next recharge will result in a full charge, as in the first battery shown.
14. **(2) Costa Rica (Comprehension)** On this map, national boundaries are shown by lines. First find Nicaragua. Then consult the compass rose to find out that south is toward the bottom of the map. Therefore the nation that borders Nicaragua to the south is Costa Rica.
15. **(3) Acapulco (Comprehension)** To locate the point represented by this pair of latitude and longitude indicators, first find 100 degrees west longitude. Then run your finger up that line of longitude until you reach 17 degrees north latitude (between 10 and 20 degrees north latitude). Acapulco is approximately at that point.
16. **(3) Both have only one coastline. (Synthesis)** First find Belize and El Salvador. Note that Belize has a coast along the Caribbean only. Note also that El Salvador has a coast along the Pacific only. That is their similarity—each has one coastline, unlike the other Central American countries, which have two.
17. **(4) Honduras (Analysis)** First find Nicaragua and El Salvador on the map. You will see that Honduras is between them. Therefore, to travel from one country to the other by land, you must cross Honduras.

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